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Japan

Trade Minister Mori Leaves for U.S. 26 March

OW2603023593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0227 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori left Friday for Washington to discuss bilateral trade issues with U.S. Vice President Al Gore and other administration officials.

During his three-day visit, Mori will explain Japan's policies on pending issues between the two nations, such as semiconductors and cars, ahead of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's scheduled mid-April meeting with President Bill Clinton, MITI officials said.

Mori also is scheduled to meet Secretary of Commerce Ronald Brown, U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Secretary of the Treasury Lloyd Bentsen.

Expects Trade Issue During Talks

OW2603154893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1506 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Washington, March 26 KYODO—Japan's Minister of International Trade and Industry Yoshiro Mori arrived in Washington Friday for talks with senior U.S. officials in a bid to smooth the bumps in bilateral trade ties ahead of a U.S.-Japan summit meeting next month.

Mori was due to meet first with Commerce Secretary Ron Brown shortly after his arrival Friday morning at Dulles National Airport outside Washington. The meeting was to take place at the airport as Brown is flying to San Francisco to speak on U.S. trade opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region.

Mori will follow up his session with Brown with a string of calls on senior administration officials during the day. The schedule includes a meeting with U.S. Trade Representative Mickey kantor and Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen.

Mori was aiso scheduled to have a meeting at the White House with Vice President Al Gore and presidential National Security Adviser Tony Lake.

Japanese officials said Mori's trip is primarily intended to gauge the political temperature in the U.S. Government ahead of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's first meeting with President Bill Clinton on April 16. "We don't expect any heated argument," a senior MITI official said prior to Mori's departure from Tokyo.

The Japanese trade minister, however, may hear tough talk from his hosts, given the huge trade gap between the two countries. Japanese officials said Mori expects the issue of the trade imbalance to be prominent in his talks with Kantor and other U.S. officials.

The U.S. trade deficit with Japan expanded to 49.4 billion dollars last year, and Clinton used the chronic trade gap in a news conference earlier this week as a symbol of closed nature of the Japanese market.

Also on the agenda in the fractious trade relations between the two countries are a pending U.S. decision to raise tariffs on Japanese minivan imports and U.S. moves to tighten trade laws. Mori's "job is to remove as many individual trade issues as possible before the prime minister's trip to the United States," an MITI official said. Mori is expected to return to Tokyo on Sunday.

Okinawa Seeks Relocation of Live-Fire Facility

OW2603110793 Naha NHK Radio in Japanese 0315 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] The Okinawa Prefectural Assembly held a session of its Special Committee on U.S. Military Bases. Speaking at the session about U.S. military facilities for live-fire training, Governor Executive Director Takayama said that the Okinawa Prefecture Government believes U.S. forces in Okinawa have begun studying the possibility of relocating the live-fire facility in Camp Hansen to the Higashi Fuji Live-Fire Facility on the Japanese mainland and he made it clear that the Okinawa Prefecture Government will vigorously ask U.S. forces to relocate the live-fire facility outside Okinawa.

At the session, Yoshihide Isa, from the Liberal Democratic Party, said that U.S. forces in Okinawa more than doubled from 1991 the number of shells fired during their live-fire training in 1992 to over 6,000 rounds, and he asked how the prefectural government will deal with this intensifying live-fire training by U.S. forces in Okinawa.

Answering the question, Mr.Takayama said: U.S. forces in Okinawa have told our prefectural government that they will postpone their live-fire training if and when schools located near the live-fire facility have special events, including examinations. Our prefecture government believes that U.S. forces in Okinawa are now examining the possibility of relocating the live-fire facility in Camp Hansen to the Higashi Fuji Live-Fire Facility near the boundary between Shizuoka Prefecture and Yamanashi Prefecture. At the session, Mr. Takayama also said that the prefectural government would vigorously ask U.S. forces in Okinawa to relocate the live-fire facility outside Okinawa and would strongly ask U.S. forces to return the Yomitan Auxiliary Airfield, which has been used by U.S. forces for parachute training.

France Agrees to G-7 Ministerial Aid Meeting

OW2603023893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0154 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—France has agreed to a Group of Seven (G-7) ministerial meeting in Tokyo

from April 14 to 15 to discuss emergency aid to Russia, Japanese Government sources said Friday. They said that later Friday Chief Government Spokesman Yohei Kono will announce details of the meeting of foreign and finance ministers from the seven major industrialized countries.

The G-7 groups Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States. France had previously advocated an emergency G-7 summit to demonstrate the group's support for Russian President Boris Yeltsin's economic and political reform.

Kono Comments on G-7 Summit, Yeltsin Invitation

OW2503074793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0729 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Seven major industrialized nations invited Russian President Boris Yeltsin to attend their July 7-9 summit Friday in a show of support for the embattled president as he entered a showdown with Congress. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono also said the date of the summit meeting of Group of Seven (G-7) leaders may be moved up, depending on the outcome of ministerial-level discussions he said would be held on April 14-15 in Tokyo.

A senior Russian leader, perhaps Deputy Prime Minister Boris Fedorov or Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, will be invited to the emergency meeting of foreign and finance ministers on aid to Russia, Kono said.

The announcement was made one hour before Russia's Congress of People's Deputies was due to convene an emergency session in Moscow where Russian lawmakers were expected to try to oust President Boris Yeltsin and slow down his economic and political reforms. Asked if the aid plans would be linked to Yeltsin specifically, Kono replied that the moves are intended to demonstrate support for Yeltsin and his reforms policies, and that he would not answer hypothetical questions.

On the possibility of an early G-7 summit by heads of government Kono said there are two schools of thought. While some governments believe it should be convened to deliver a political message, Japan believes such a meeting should be held only if it can produce concrete pledges of support.

France and Canada have called for an early summit of heads of government, and on Thursday British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said that the possibility has not been ruled out. The other G-7 countries are the United States, Germany and Italy.

Kono did not comment on the scope of support Russia may be able to expect, saying the matter would be discussed by finance and foreign ministers in mid-April.

Japanese Government sources said earlier in the week the G-7 is preparing an aid package worth over 10 billion dollars.

Kono said that Miyazawa received a letter from French President Francois Mitterrand earlier in the day saying France would join the ministerial meeting. Mitterrand has been the most vocal advocate of holding an early summit, and has strongly criticized Japan for underestimating the seriousness of events in Russia.

Japan has been anxious to demonstrate that its territorial dispute with Russia over four islands off Hokkaido is not preventing it from joining G-7 aid efforts.

Tokyo is in close contact with Washington over aid package U.S. President Bill Clinton is expected to announce at a planned April 3-4 summit with Yeltsin, Japanese officials say.

The summit invitation for Yeltsin is his second. Last year Yeltsin joined the G-7 leaders when they met in Munich.

Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev became the first Moscow leader to meet with G-7 leaders when he joined a special session at their 1991 London summit.

Later, Kono told a House of Councillors' cabinet committee meeting that Japan would not rule out a tete-a-tete between Yeltsin and Miyazawa during the July summit. But he said the talks would not be regarded as a make-up for Yeltsin's canceled visit here.

Yeltsin abruptly called off a trip to Japan in September and later blamed Tokyo for its intransigence on the territorial dispute. Kono said that G-7 officials making preparations for the July summit would decide whether the island issue should be on the G-7 agenda.

Last year Miyazawa claimed victory after he successfully lobbied to include the dispute, dating back to the end of World War II, in summit documents. Recently, though, some officials have said the publicity may have created a misunderstanding that Japan is aloof when it comes to backing reforms in Russia.

Japan's official policy is that it will join multilateral aid efforts, but will not provide major bilateral financial assistance until Russia recognizes its sovereignty over the islands.

Ministry Considering 'New Type' Aid for Russia

OW2603100293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0949 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Japanese Vice Finance Minister Mamoru Ozaki said Friday Tokyo may come up with a new type of assistance to Russia, something different from what it has given so far. Ozaki, speaking at a regular press meeting, declined to elaborate but said it "could be something different from the past" and will be provided in cooperation with other Group of Seven (G-7) major economies.

Japan has refused to provide substantial bilateral assistance to Russia because of a territorial dispute over four

islands off Hokkaido that were captured by the former Soviet Union at end of World War II. He added, however, that Japan's fundamental stance of not separating economic and political issues has not changed.

Japanese Government spokesman Yohei Kono said the same day that G-7 finance and foreign ministers will gather in Tokyo on April 14-15 to discuss emergency aid to Russia, and they may invite a representative from Moscow.

But when it comes to the question of what G-7 can do to help Russia, Ozaki questioned the efficiency of immediate financial assistance, citing Russia's hyperinflation that is said to reach 2,000 percent a year. "I don't think financial aid can be effective under such circumstances," he said.

"We will also have to come to a resolution on rescheduling of Russian debts at the Paris Club," he said.

Asked whether he is supporting Russia itself or President Boris Yeltsin when he mentions Russian aid, Ozaki said supporting Yeltsin is the common stance of the G-7 nations—Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

Turning to domestic issues, Ozaki said Japan's land prices are "still too high," despite government figures released Friday that showed land prices in Japan as of January 1 marked a decline of 8.4 percent from a year earlier, falling for the second straight year for the first time since the research was launched in 1970.

He said the ministry has no intention of cutting the land value tax, which was raised to 0.3 percent this year from 0.2 last year, nor is the government considering easing capital gains tax on properties. Ozaki said the land tax scheme was launched last year from a long-term perspective, aiming to trim profitability of investment in land since the Japanese are inclined to excessively stick to them as an investment vehicle.

Ukraine Urges Finance of Nuclear Arms Removal

OW2503232393 Tokyo KYODO in English 2304 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Washington, March 25 KYODO—Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko said Thursday his country would welcome Japanese financial contributions to dismantle the nuclear arsenal left in Ukraine by the former Soviet Union. Zlenko, speaking to a reporter from Japan, said, "We would be very obliged if you could find in your country such a possibility."

Zlenko, currently in Washington for a two-day visit, said destroying the thousands of strategic nuclear weapons still in Ukraine would cost 2.8 billion dollars, a sum the Ukrainian Government cannot afford.

"This is a huge figure for our economy. It would be extremely difficult to find such a figure," he said in a departing news conference.

The United States has pledged 175 million dollars to help Ukraine destroy the strategic weapons as part of the strategic nuclear weapons reduction treaty it has concluded with Russia. Ukraine has balked at ratifying the treaty, claiming it lacks the financial resources to destroy the weapons.

Further on Visit of SRV Premier Vo Van Kiet

Businessmen Urged To Boost Trade

OW2603042893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0359 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet urged Japanese business leaders Friday to step up investment in Vietnam and boost bilateral trade, officials said. They quoted Kiet as telling leaders of the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) that Vietnam needs foreign capital equivalent to 2 billion dollars a year to achieve its goal of doubling its gross domestic product by 2000.

Kiet, who arrived in Japan on Wednesday on a five-day visit, said Vietnam is particularly keen for investment in processing agricultural and marine products, export-oriented industries, the development of natural resources and improvement of the social infrastructure.

The chairman of Keidanren, Gaishi Hiraiwa, gave a positive response to the requests, the officials said.

Meeting With Emperor Akihito

OW2603045493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0435 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet met with Emperor Akihito at the Imperial Palace on Friday, Imperial Household Agency officials said.

The audience was followed by an imperial luncheon for Kiet, who arrived in Japan on Thursday for a five-day official visit. Crown Prince Naruhito also attended the luncheon.

Request for UN Sanctions Against KR

OW2603113393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1116 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet on Friday called on the United Nations to impose sanctions against the Khmer Rouge [KR] guerrilla faction to bar it from killing more ethnic Vietnamese in Cambodia. "I urge the United Nations, (the Cambodian) Supreme National Council and the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to take resolute actions against the Khmer Rouge to prevent it from repeating a massacre of ethnic Vietnamese," Kiet said at a news conference. "I appeal for strict actions to defend ethnic Vietnamese residents in Cambodia," Kiet said.

Kiet is now on a five-day visit and is the first Vietnamese prime minister to visit a major industrial power since the 1976 unification of Vietnam. He returns home Sunday.

Kiet blasted the Khmer Rouge for "devastating the Paris peace accord" and urged the international community to pay greater heed to the plight of ethnic Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. His comments came the day after five ethnic Vietnamese residents were killed in the province of Kompong Chhnang and after the March 10 killing of 38 Vietnamese settlers in the town of Siem Reap in western Cambodia.

UNTAC has accused the Khmer Rouge of killing the 38 Vietnamese.

Independent estimates put the number of ethnic Vietnamese residents in Cambodia at between 200,000 and 500,000. The Khmer Rouge has condemned the presence of the Vietnamese residents as Hanoi's attempt to colonize Cambodia and charges that the settlers include many disguised Vietnamese soldiers.

The Vietnamese premier vowed to turn down a possible request from Russia to allow it to increase its naval presence in Cam Ranh Bay in southern Vietnam.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said last year Hanoi and Moscow had agreed to maintain Russian naval presence in Cam Ranh Bay which is a strategically important port in the South China Sea. "We would not comply with a Russian request to strengthen the Russian naval presence," Kiet said. Russia reportedly has 2,000 troops and family members in the port town.

Kiet confirmed press reports that the United States is sending an official delegation to Hanoi in April.

Kiet sought to mitigate remaining opposition in the U.S. to the normalization of diplomatic ties between Hanoi and Washington because of the issue of U.S. servicemen listed as missing in action during the Vietnam war. "We have made maximum efforts to solve the MIA issue and to hand over the remains of U.S. servicemen to the U.S. side, as it is a humanitarian issue," Kiet said.

Kiet, 70, a former guerrilla fighter who joined the communist movement in 1938, commended Japan for providing economic cooperation to help bail out the Vietnamese economy. Japan, which broke a 14-year suspension on aid to Hanoi last November, pledged to give project loans to help improve Vietnam's infrastructure, such as power plants.

Vietnam's centrally planned economy is reportedly languishing under the financial burden of maintaining its 850,000-member military even after the introduction of reform policies.

"My visit to Japan was a success and it lifted the Vietnamese-Japanese relations to a new stage," Kiet said. "We would like to expand our new relations to even a higher ground," he said.

Kiet urged Japan to boost its official development assistance and investment in Vietnam. Tokyo gave 45.5 billion yen in low-interest commodity loans last year.

Kiet stopped short of rebutting criticism in the U.S. Congress that Hanoi still imprisons thousands of political prisoners, including 538 prisoners identified by the California-based National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam and Amnesty International. On January 26, the U.S. House of Representatives appealed for the release of Vietnamese political prisoners.

Dissident Vietnamese intellectuals who have fled the country since 1975 said they will appeal for the release of political prisoners in an April 28 meeting at the White House with President Bill Clinton.

Tokyo, Hanoi Agree to Bilateral Air Links

OW2503224293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1427 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO—Japan and Vietnam agreed to inaugurate bilateral air routes after a new international airport opens in 1994 in the western region of Kansai, Transport Ministry officials said Thursday.

Under the agreement, reached during bilateral preliminary talks under way in Hanoi, both countries will be allowed to operate twice-a-week air services to each country immediately after the airport opens in the summer of 1994. The deal will restore regular flights by Vietnamese airliners to Japan, which were severed in June 1975 following the U.S. forces' retreat from Saigon after it fell to the Communist North.

Fukuoka will also serve as a landing port for Vietnamese flights, while Vietnam will open the capital city of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh city to Japanese air services. The two governments will continue talks to work out a bilateral aviation pact.

The officials said the opening of aviation links between the two countries should meet mounting demand from Japanese businessmen who are rushing into the country to establish business ties, cashing in on Hanoi's policy of opening its economy. According to ministry data, about 6,000 Japanese visited Vietnam in 1991, while Vietnamese who came to Japan that year numbered about 2,500.

EC 'Cannot Tolerate' Tokyo's Trade Surplus

OW2603033393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0221 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Brussels, March 26 KYODO—The European Community (EC) told Japan on Thursday [25 March] that it cannot tolerate Japan's huge trade surplus in view of growing protectionist moves amid a worsening employment situation, Japanese businessmen said. They said the EC's stand was made known to a delegation of

the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) led by Kazuo Haruna, chairman of major trading house Marubeni Corp.

The mission held separate meetings with EC Commission President Jacques Delors and Martin Bangemann, a member of the commission, they said.

Delors was quoted as telling the delegation that the process of forming a unified Europe has come to a standstill and the European people are very concerned about the rising jobless rate and the trade imbalance between Japan and Europe. He stressed the need for both Japan and the EC to enhance dialogue and personnel interchanges, saying Japan-EC relations still are not as strong as those between Japan and the United States, the Japanese businessmen said.

Bangemann called on Japan to open its rice market to signal its resolve to contribute to a successful conclusion of the stalled Uruguay Round of world trade talks, they said.

Tokyo Decides To Send SDF to Mozambique

OW2603001693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0007 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—The Japanese Government formally decided Friday to send Self-Defense Forces [SDF] personnel to Mozambique to join United Nations peacekeeping operations there, government sources said.

The decision follows the recent visit of a government fact- finding mission to the war-torn southern African country, which found that all key conditions for Japan's participation in U.N. peacekeeping efforts there have been met. The conditions include a cease-fire and assurances that Japanese personnel will not be drawn into combat.

About 50 Japanese military personnel are expected to engage in peacekeeping activities in Mozambique.

Japan sent a 600-member engineering team from the SDF to Cambodia last September, the first overseas deployment of Japanese ground troops since the end of World War II.

50 To Help With Transportation

OW2603044993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0429 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Japan announced Friday [26 March] it will send 50 Self-Defense Force [SDF] personnel to Mozambique around late May to help with transportation operations for the 7,500-member United Nations peacekeeping mission there.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said that the government decision to join a second U.N. peacekeeping mission was based on the wide support, both at home and abroad, for Japanese peacekeepers serving in Cambodia. "Expectations for our international contributions are high," Kono told a news conference after winning cabinet approval for Japan's second major peacekeeping effort.

It also was hoped the decision would dispel the image that Japan is concerned primarily about Asia, a Foreign Ministry official said. "What we are saying is that Japan's concern is more global, that we are ready to go wherever there is a need," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Kono, who earlier expressed extreme caution about sending SDF peacekeepers to a second country, told reporters that wide media coverage of operations in Cambodia had helped win public support for wider participation in such efforts.

Last September Japan sent a 600-member SDF engineering team to Cambodia under a controversial new law that enabled Japan to send ground troops overseas for the first time since the end of World War II.

Kono said Japan wants to help restore lasting peace in the coastal southern African nation because Mozambique is a key country for development of the region.

Mozambique provides access to the sea for landlocked countries in the region. Its infrastructure has been wrecked by a 16-year civil war.

The spokesman said Japan may send a second fact-finding team to the region prior to dispatching personnel, a process he predicted would take two months.

He said the Foreign Ministry would also move to set up some sort of office because Japan has no embassy there.

The decision followed a report by a fact-finding mission this week that Mozambique meets Japan's five conditions for joining U.N. peacekeeping operations. They include a ceasefire, and assurances that Japanese personnel will not be drawn into combat. Japan's postwar Constitution bans the use of force to resolve international conflicts.

After the cabinet meeting Justice Minister Masaharu Gotoda criticized the leading role played by bureaucrats in pushing for dispatch of troops to Mozambique. Gotoda said that such matters should be decided by politicians, not as part of the "routine work" of bureaucrats.

U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali advocated Japan's involvement in the mission, as did the Foreign Ministry, which seeks a bigger role for Japan in the United Nations.

The possibility of clashes is believed to be one reason why Japan did not meet an informal U.N. request last December to supply ceasefire monitors.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said the decision to send peacekeepers to Mozambique was not only made in the national interest. "Isn't the most important thing that the real purpose of our dispatch is international cooperation?" he said at a news conference after the morning cabinet meeting

As Japan does not maintain an embassy in Mozambique, some staff will be temporarily transferred from the embassy in Zimbabwe, Mozambique's western neighbor, to set up communication facilities soon, he said.

The government and rebels signed a peace accord in October officially ending a civil war that started in 1975, shortly after Mozambique became independent from Portugal. But skirmishes still take place, and U.N. peacekeeping operations have been delayed. Many Mozambicans, some skeptical peace will reign, are flocking south to refugee camps in South African refugee camps. Elections are likely to be held in the first half of 1994.

Regret Expressed at South Africa Nuclear Disclosure

OW2503043693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0307 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO—Japan expressed surprise and regret Thursday at South Africa's announcement Wednesday that by 1989 it had built six nuclear bombs that were later dismantled. "I hope that in the future (South Africa) will faithfully adhere to a nonnuclear path," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said at a regular news conference.

On Wednesday, South African President F.W. de Klerk said that the six bombs developed under his predecessor P.W. Botha were ordered "dismantled and destroyed" in early 1990. South Africa signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in July 1991, and has allowed inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency to inspect its nuclear facilities.

CIA head James Woolsey said last month, however, that the United States is concerned about the accuracy of Pretoria's declaration about its nuclear stores.

Paper Says Miyazawa Received Money From Firm

OW2603013893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0113 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's name appears on a list of politicians who got money from a major construction company linked to a former party boss accused of tax evasion, a national daily said Friday.

The MAINICHI SHIMBUN said in a front-page article that it has obtained a list of contributions made by Shimizu Corp. which gives special status to Shin Kanemaru, disgraced former power broker of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita. The special status, indicated by the letters "sa," means that Kanemaru, already indicted on tax evasion charges, and Takeshita each received 10 million yen twice a year in contributions from Shimizu.

It said six others, including Miyazawa, were given "a" status, meaning they got 5 million yen each summer and again at the year-end. The others were Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Ichiro Ozawa, a former secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the LDP's Policy Affairs Research Council, and Mutsuki Kato, a former chairman of the panel.

Nakasone's office acknowledged the receipt of Shimizu money, but the offices of Miyazawa and Ozawa denied receiving contributions from the construction company, the MAINICHI said.

The list named 13 senior politicians as in the "b" category, receiving a total of 6 million yen a year, the MAINICHI reported. They include former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, LDP Secretary General Seiroku Kajiyama, Justice Minister Masaharu Gotoda, former LDP Secretary General Keizo Obuchi and former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata. There were also two lower categories, bringing the number of politicians receiving money from the company to 57. All but one were LDP members, it said.

Contractors' Group Apologizes for 'Donations'

OW2603091193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0741 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—A head of the Japan Federation of Construction Contractors apologized to the public Friday after reports that some of its members provided secret donations to influential Diet members, including disgraced power broker Shin Kanemaru.

"We are sorry that many of our member companies are under investigation by the authorities. We take that very seriously," chairman Teruzo Yoshino told reporters at a special 30-minute news conference.

"We fully realize that it is necessary to review the operations of the construction industry if we want to avoid criticism in the future," he said.

Investigators on Kanemaru's alleged massive tax evasion revealed that construction companies regularly gave donations to him and other Diet members and their aides to secure privileged access to public works projects. Yoshino vowed to put an end to the donation system by construction companies.

Prosecutors have raided the offices of 18 major and medium-sized general contractors in their investigation

of "money-for-favor" transactions. The donations were made during the traditional gift-giving in midsummer and at year-end.

Kanemaru, 78, was one of Japan's most powerful behind-the-scenes political figures until his downfall last October. The former vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) is said to have patronized the construction industry of his native Yamanashi Prefecture in central Japan.

Three Businessmen To Testify in Scandal Probe

OW2603134993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1256 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Ruling and opposition parties agreed Friday to summon three businessmen as witnesses to the House of Councillors' Budget Committee on April 1 as part of its probe into the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal, officials said. The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and opposition parties reached the accord in behind-the-scenes talks among Budget Committee directors.

Kagetoshi Oka, managing director of Okasan Securities Co., and Kazumasa Tashiro, former chairman of the defunct Heiwa Sogo Bank, will testify as sworn witnesses, the officials said.

The committee will also summon Seishi Matsuoka, president of Nippon Credit Bank Ltd., to testify as an unsworn witness, they said. A sworn witness can be charged with perjury for giving false testimony, while no punishment can be imposed on an unsworn witness who testifies falsely.

The Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal, which has rocked the country's political world since last year, led to the downfall of Shin Kanemaru, who, as head of what was the largest LDP faction, once wielded enormous political clout.

Kanemaru, 78, quit the Diet last October after being fined 200,000 yen for taking 500 million yen in illicit political donations from the delivery company, which has since been absorbed into the Kyoto-based Sagawa Kyubin Co. He was arrested on March 6 for allegedly evading hundreds of millions of yen in income taxes in 1987 and 1989.

Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita has been criticized for gaining help from an underworld boss through Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin's former president during his campaign for the 1987 LDP presidential race.

Okasan Securities, a medium-sized securities firm, and Nippon Credit Bank, a long-term credit bank, allegedly sold billions of yen worth of discount bank debentures to Kanemaru. Okasan officials have said that Oka personally showed Kanemaru how to manage his bond purchases, but did not represent the securities firm in doing so.

Heiwa Sogo Bank's former auditor Shigeaki Isaka testified in the Tokyo District Court on February 16 that he once saw a note naming Takeshita as a potential recipient of part of a payment for an expensive gold-leaf screen the bank bought in 1985 in a feud over bank management. Takeshita, in his sworn testimony before the House of Representatives Budget Committee on February 17, flatly denied any involvement in the purchase of the screen.

Tokyo, LDP Talks on Milk Prices Go Sour

OW2503141493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1338 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO—Negotiations between the government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] hit a snag Thursday over government plans to cut the state-guaranteed price of milk paid to dairy farmers in fiscal 1993, beginning April 1. As a result, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Masami Tanabu delayed seeking advice on the plans until Friday from the dairy products division of his ministry's Livestock Industry Promotion Council, an advisory body.

An LDP panel opposed the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry's proposal to lower the price of milk for making butter and skim milk by 1.3 percent from fiscal 1992.

Under the proposal, the price—a combination of the price dairy product makers pay to dairy farmers and government subsidies—would be reduced to 75.75 yen per kilogram, down 1 yen from the current fiscal year. The price cut, if implemented, would be the first in two years.

Besides a cut in the milk price, the ministry also proposed reducing the amount of milk guaranteed for government subsidy by 50,000 tons to 2.35 million tons.

JAMA Reports on Automobile Export Figures

OW2503062893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0600 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO—Japan's automobile exports in February dropped 5.4 percent in terms of number from a year earlier, but rose 7.0 percent in value, an industry association said Thursday.

The Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association [JAMA] said the number of automobiles exported totaled 496,965, down 28,310 from a year earlier for the fifth consecutive monthly drop. The figure also represents a 6.5 percent, or 34,384 vehicles, fall from the previous month.

In terms of value, however, exports in February amounted to 7.44 billion dollars, up 7.0 percent from a year earlier, but down 0.4 percent from the previous month. The decline in number apparently stemmed from

a continuing drop in shipments to the United States, the biggest overseas market for Japan's automobiles.

Exports to the U.S. declined for the 14th straight month, dwindling 5.2 percent from a year earlier to 158,376 vehicles.

Exports to the European Community, going into reverse from a strong rise in January, fell 9.2 percent to 117,090 vehicles. Exports to Asian nations, on the other hand, jumped 34 percent to 64,093 vehicles, the association said.

By type, exports of passenger cars totaled 393,014, down for the fifth straight month. Exports of trucks totaled 96,809, while bus exports came to 7,142.

Ministry Reports on Crude Oil Import Figures

OW2503065993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0608 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO—Japan's imports of crude oil in February increased 2.0 percent from a year earlier to 132.84 million barrels, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Thursday. Crude oil imports in the month were down 15.7 percent from January, however, according to the ministry's monthly preliminary report.

The United Arab Emirates was the biggest supplier of crude oil in February, followed by Saudi Arabia and Indonesia. Middle East nations together supplied 77.7 percent of Japan's crude oil imports in the month.

The amount of crude oil processed in February increased 3.6 percent from a year earlier to 124.54 million barrels, marking the 16th consecutive month of year-on-year rises.

Fuel oil output rose 1.3 percent from a year before to 115.74 million barrels. Production of gas oil rose 1.1 percent to 19.00 million barrerls, a record for the month of February.

Fuel oil imports fell 4.2 percent from a year earlier to 16.79 million barrels, while exports of the oil decreased 1.0 percent to 7.11 million barrels.

Domestic fuel oil sales declined for the second straight month, falling 4.7 percent from a year earlier to 128.69 million barrels. Since 1992 was a leap year, the adjusted figure was calculated into a 1.3 percent fall.

Transport Ministry To Reshuffle Top Personnel

OW2603043893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0418 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 26 KYODO—Transport Minister Ihei Ochi has decided to reshuffle top personnel in the Meteorological and Maritime Safety Agencies, effective April 1, ministry officials said Friday.

Kozo Ninomiya, 57, head of the Meteorological Agency's forecast department, will be promoted to director general of the agency, replacing outgoing head Takashi Nitta, the officials said. Ninomiya, a native of Niigata Prefecture, joined the agency in 1958 and has been head of the forecast department since April last year.

Tatsuhiko Yamanouchi, 63, will replace Yoichi Sugiyama as head of the high marine accidents inquiry agency. Yamanouchi, a native of Shizuoka Prefecture, has been presiding judge at the agency since April 1991. He joined the agency in 1971 after graduation from a Mercantile Marine High School.

Yukio Yoshida, 49, head of the Niigata Regional Maritime Agency Headquarters, will become secretary general of the Transport Ministry's central labor relations commission for seafarers, replacing Hiroshi Tsutsui. Yoshida, a graduate of Kyoto University, joined the Transport Ministry in 1967 and was appointed to his present post in July 1991.

Aegis-System Destroyer Delivered to MSDF

OW 2503062193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0522 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Nagasaki, March 25 KYODO—The Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) on Thursday took delivery of a 7,250-ton Aegis-system destroyer, the first of four such vessels on order for the Japanese naval fleet, Defense Agency officials said.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. handed over the destroyer, the Kongo, to the MSDF in a ceremony at the shipbuilder's Nagasaki dockyard. The Kongo will be deployed to the 2nd fleet escort force headquartered in Sasebo, Nagasaki Prefecture, officials said. They did not say when it will be put into service.

The U.S.-developed Aegis command and control system uses electronics means to identify over 200 targets at a time and can destroy more than 10 of them simultaneously with ship-launched missiles.

The Defense Agency plans to deploy one Aegis-system destroyer to each of Japan's four fleet escort forces, which have eight destroyers each, to defend the fleets from air attack, the officials said. The Aegis ships will cost some 120 billion yen each, excluding weaponry.

Matsushita Develops Sensor To Monitor Ozone

OW2503044993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0356 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO—Matsushita Research Institute Tokyo Inc. has developed an engineering version of a sensor used to observe the ozone layer, company officials said Thursday. Called the improved limb atmospheric spectrometer (ILAS), the device can measure the concentration of the ozone layer and the amount of destructive gases in the atmosphere.

A test model has already been delivered to the Environment Agency, which had requested its development. Matsushita will begin constructing the flight model of the sensor for shipment in June 1994 after getting approval from the agency, the officials said.

ILAS will be mounted on a satellite which will be launched in February 1996 by Japan's National Space Development Agency to monitor the earth's oceans, atmosphere and land masses, they said.

North Korea

Kim Chong-il Calls for Continued Defense of Country

SK2603043593 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0416 GMT 26 Mar 93

["Comrade Kim Chong-il Calls Upon Whole Army and Entire People Not To Slacken Manner and Spirit of Semi-war State"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—The officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces and the entire people should continue to wage the vigorous struggle for the defence of the motherland and the socialist construction, not slackening the manner and spirit which were displayed at the time of a semi-war state, so said Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, in a message of thanks on March 24 to the officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces, all the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards and the entire party members and other working people who displayed a high degree of loyalty and devotion in the struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and the gains of the revolution in hearty response to his order declaring a semi-war state to the whole country, all the peopole and the entire army and to the statement of the Government of the DPRK on withdrawing from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

It is a striking demonstration of the indestructibility of our style socialism that the leader, the party and the masses are united in one mind and the army and the people have become an integrated whole to smash the moves of aggression and war of the imperialists and other reactionaries and defend the security of the country and the people creditably, Comrade Kim Chong-il said, and continued:

The U.S. imperialists' aggressive scheme against us sustained a heavy blow, but they have not given up their aggressive designs to stifle our republic and are hatching up a more dangerous plot. The U.S. imperialists and the international reactionaries are further intensifying pressure and blockade upon us under unreasonable pretexts, and owing to this the situation of our country is remaining tense and the danger of a war is increasing.

The officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces should watch every movement of the enemy with heightened revolutionary vigilance and further strengthen the combat power of their units so as to crush the enemy at a stroke any time.

The entire party members and other working people should reject idleness and indolence, work and live always in a strained and militant way and actively strive to effect a new upswing in socialist construction.

Kim Chong-il Sends 'Message of Thanks' to Army

SK2603045593 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0434 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Chong-il, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, on March 24 sent a message of thanks to the officers and men of the Korean People's Army [KPA] and the Korean People's Security Forces [KPSF], all the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards and the entire party members and other working people who displayed a high degree of loyalty in the struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and the gains of the revolution.

The message of thanks says:

I extend warm thanks to the officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces, all the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards and all the party members and other working people who displayed a high degree of loyalty and devotion in the struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and the gains of the revolution in hearty response to the order of the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army declaring a semi-war state to the whole country, all the people and the entire army and to the statement of the government of the DPRK on its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

The U.S. imperialists, the enemy of peace and reunification of Korea, staged the "Team Spirit" nuclear war exercises for a surprise preemptive strike at the northern half of Korea under the pretext of "nuclear suspicion" against us and instigated some officials of the secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency and member states to force a "special inspection" of military sites of our republic and thus rendered the situation of our country extremely strained.

It was a most justifiable measure reflecting the unshakable will of our people to safeguard the independence and sovereignty of the motherland and defend our socialism to the end that our party andthe government of the republic declared a state of semi-war in face of the hair-trigger situation created in our country in which a war might break out any moment owing to the reckless moves of the U.S. imperialists and resolutely announced withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

All the soldiers and people, always trusting the party and faithful to its calls, expressed unquestioned support to the self-defensive measure of the party and the government and turned out as one in the struggle to fulfil the order of the supreme commander. The units of the KPA three services and the Korean People's Security Forces and all the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards kept themselves in full combat readiness and defended the land, seas and sky of the country as an impregnable fortress, thus honourably discharging their mission and tasks as revolutionary Armed Forces of our party and safeguarding with credit the security of our republic and people. The entire working class, cooperative peasants and intellectuals effected a revolutionary upswing in socialist construction while making vigorous efforts to strengthen the People's Army and consolidate the all-people defence system, with a hammer or a sickle in one hand and a rifle in the other. Many beautiful deeds showing intense loyalty to the party and the leader and the spirit of patriotic devotion were reported among the soldiers and people who rose up unanimously with a resolution to defend with death the motherland and the gains of revolution from the enemy's aggression. Our valiant young people stirred themselves up, all fully prepared to become guns and bombs for a merciless counterattack on the enemy, many of them volunteering to join or rejoin the People's Army.

It is a striking demonstration of the indestructibility of our style socialism that the leader, the party and the masses are united in one mind and the army and the people have become an integrated whole to smash the moves of aggression and war of the imperialists and other reactionaries and defend the security of the country and the people creditably.

I highly estimate the brilliant achievements and feats of the officers and men of the KPA and KPSF and the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards, all the party members and other working people who displayed the mettle and might of heroic Korea through the struggle to resolutely defend their party and leader and safeguard the interests of their motherland and people in response to the order of the supreme commander.

The U.S. imperialists' aggressive scheme against us sustained a heavy blow, but they have not given up their aggressive designs to stifle our republic and are hatching up a more dangerous plot. The U.S. imperialists and the international reactionaries are further intensifying pressure and blockade upon us under unreasonable pretexts, and owing to this the situation of our country is remaining tense and the danger of a war is increasing.

The officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces and the entire people should continue to wage the vigorous struggle for defence of the motherland and socialist construction, not slackening the manner and spirit which were displayed at the time of a semi-war state.

The officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces should watch every movement of the enemy with heightened revolutionary vigilance and further strengthen the combat power of their units so as to crush the enemy at a stroke any time.

The entire party members and other working people should reject idleness and indolence, work and live always in a strained and militant way and actively strive to effect a new upswing in the socialist construction.

I firmly believe that the whole country, the entire people and all the army will defend like an iron wall and further glorify our party and republic, our-style socialism, by greeting the 40th anniversary of the victory in the fatherland liberation war with high political enthusiasm and brilliant achievements in labour, united around the party and the leader in one mind.

Order To Lift 'Semi-War State' Affects Nation

SK2503123893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1106 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 25 (KCNA)—The order of respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il to the whole country, all the people and the entire army on lifting the semi-war state has evoked great repercussions on the People's Army soldiers and working people.

O I-Chong, a general of the Korean People's Army, said that in the period of semi-war proclaimed by the respected comrade supreme commander, the Korean people and People's Army soldiers eloquently demonstrated to the world the might of a powerful socialist state.

"Even if the semi-war state is lifted, we do not think peace has settled in this land," he said. "We will always maintain full combat preparedness and closely watch every movement of the enemy."

"We will strengthen the combat preparedness of our unit with the same faith in victory and indomitable spirit as were displayed in the semi-war period and will smash any surprise attack of the enemy at one stroke and firmly defend the socialist system," he added.

Pak Hwa-chun, director of the Pungnyon Mine, said the lifting of the semi-war state was a great victory of the just self-defensive measure which had been taken to defend the supreme interests of the nation and safeguard the Korean-style socialist system.

"Through the semi-war state, we eloquently demonstrated once again that the Korean people are not afraid of any aggressive forces and that if the enemy recklessly pounces on them, the entire people will become guns and bombs to deal an annihilating blow to the enemy and firmly defend our party and socialist motherland," he stressed.

Yi Chun-kun, chairman of the management board of the Yoltusamchon cooperative farm in Sukchon County, South Pyongan Province, said: "We entered into full

combat preparedness in response to the order of comrade supreme commander of the Korean People's Army to switch over to a semi-war state and effectively demonstrated all over the world that Korea is a powerful socialist state of chuche with political and military strength no one can dare provoke."

Kim Chong-sil, chairman of the Central District, Pyongyang Municipality, Administrative and Economic Committee, warned that through the lesson this time, the enemy must clearly know Korea is a powerful socialist state of chuche with political and military strength no one can dare provoke and the Korean people are a heroic people closely united in one mind behind the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Further on Nuclear Treaty Withdrawal

'Roundtable Talk' on Withdrawal

SK2603041593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0535 GMT 23 Mar 93

[First installment of roundtable talk, "Our Sincerity Shown in Implementing the Agreement," with station correspondent Yi Chung-song as moderator; Yi Hong-sop, general director of the Atomic Energy Research Center; Dr. Yun Chang-ho, head of the Nuclear Physics Research Institute; Dr. Yi Sang-kun, head of the Radioactive Chemistry Research Institute; and Choe Chong-sun and Chang Song-hak, directors of bureaus of the Ministry of Atomic Energy Industry; panel members not identified during discussion—place, date not given]

[Text] [Yi Chung-song] How are you? You are the experts and scientists in the atomic energy industry sector of our country who took part directly in the six irregular inspections [pichonggyu sachal] conducted by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and who participated in a series of negotiations with the IAEA when its February Board of Governors meeting was held in Vienna. I think you can prove with material and data more concretely than anyone else the justness of our government's statement declaring its stern decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. This is why I have invited you to this meeting today.

[Panelist] Let me speak first. As everyone knows, our government's stern decision to withdraw from the NPT is a very patriotic and just measure to defend our nation's dignity and sovereignty and to defend our country's supreme interest and security. Our country was no longer able to implement the duties pursuant to the nuclear safeguards agreement under an abnormal [pichongsangjok] situation created by the manuevers against our republic by the United States, the South Korean authorities, and some officials at the IAEA Secretariat. In this kind of situation our country had to take a self-defensive measure. This was the reason our republic had to withdraw from the NPT.

[Panelist] That is right. By nature, our joining the NPT was intended to gain something favorable by eliminating the nuclear threat against us based on the strength of the treaty. Proceeding from this purpose, our country joined the NPT on 12 December 1985.

[Yi] We joined that international organization for the purpose of having U.S. nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea, eliminating the nuclear threat of the United States, and making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free peace zone. Thus, before we begin discussing the basic issue, I would like briefly to discuss with you some questions: What is the NPT? What is the nuclear safeguards agreement? What is the relationship between the IAEA, the NPT, and the nuclear safeguards agreement, and so forth?

[Panelist] Let me speak first. In a nutshell, the NPT is a treaty to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The basic content of the NPT stipulates that countries that possess nuclear weapons shall not hand nuclear weapons or technology on manufacturing nuclear weapon over to other countries, and that countries that possess nuclear weapons shall not pose a nuclear threat to nonnuclear countries. It also stipulates that nonnuclear countries should not acquire nuclear weapons or technology related to the production of nuclear weapons.

Countries that have nuclear weapons means those countries that conducted a nuclear weapons test before 1 January 1967. These countries include the former Soviet Union, the United States, Britain, France, and China.

[Yi] They are the permanent member states of the UN Security Council, are they not?

[Panelist] That is right. As for the safeguards agreement, it sets forth the procedures stipulating the obligations of the nonnuclear countries pursuant to the NPT. This agreement is signed by the signatory states of the NPT and the IAEA.

[Yi] Is it not a bilateral agreement?

[Panelist] Yes, we can call it a bilateral agreement. According to this agreement, the IAEA has the right to conduct nuclear inspections of the signatory states, and the signatory states are obligated to receive nuclear inspections. According to this agreement, the IAEA conducts nuclear inspections of the signatory states.

[Panelist] The nuclear inspections are, figuratively speaking, similar to an audit of banking institutions or the inventory of stores. We can divide the IAEA inspections largely into three categories: nonregular inspections, regular inspections, and special inspections. The six nonregular inspections we received were to enable the IAEA to objectively verify the accuracy and completeness of our initial report to the IAEA on the nuclear material.

[Yi] They made on-the-spot verification, did they not?

[Panelist] Yes, they did. At the same time, the IAEA verifies first-hand the accuracy of our report on the designs. These were the purposes of the six rounds of the nonregular inspections we have received. Regular inspections can usually be conducted after the nonregular inspections or on some other occasions. During regular inspections, they objectively review the change in the quantity of the nuclear material from documents or by on-the-spot examination.

[Yi] As the term itself says, they conduct inspections regularly.

[Panelist] That is right. Special inspections are inspections that are conducted under abnormal circumstances.

[Yi] Has the IAEA ever decided to conduct special inspections in the past?

[Panelist] Working for the IAEA, I have participated in a number of inspections. The history of IAEA inspections shows that the IAEA has not conducted a special inspection before.

[Yi] As we are all aware, the government of our republic signed the NPT from an antinuclear position for peace. Since then it has made every possible effort to carry out faithfully its obligations under the treaty. The six nonregular inspections proves this.

[Panelist] The IAEA inspectors have conducted six inspections of our nuclear facilities [haek sisol]. In addition to the research institutes engaged in developing nuclear energy, we also have various nuclear facilities that are built on the basis of the results our research and on the firm foundation of our country's self-reliant national economy.

As is well known, all of our nuclear activities are thoroughly peaceful in their mission and content, and all of our nuclear facilities are independent ones [chuchejogin kosimnida] which we have built for ourselves. Therefore, when they conduct inspections on us, we have nothing to hide, nor do we have anything about which we feel dishonorable [ttottotchi mothage saenggakhanun]. We have received nuclear inspections six times, sincerely showing everything just as it is. Our first duty under the Nuclear Safeguards Accord, which was effectuated in April 1992, was to submit a primary report on the actual state of our nuclear materials by the end of April and a report on specifications of inspection targets [sachal taesang] by the end of May. We submitted those reports to the IAEA on 4 May, far ahead of the due date. By doing so, we prepared a favorable condition for the IAEA to inspect our country within a short time.

In addition, we invited the IAEA secretary general to inspections of our country, informing him in detail of our plans for nuclear development and inviting him to look at all of our nuclear facilities [haek sisol]. We showed him a 5,000 kw test atomic power plant; a 50,000 kw test atomic power plant under construction; a radiological laboratory, which is in the second phase of construction now; a nuclear fuel plant; the Nuclear Electronics Institute and the Radiological Institute in our research complex; an isotope processing plant; and the site of a 200,000 kw atomic power plant under construction.

We showed him not only nuclear facilities but also underground civilian air raid shelters in our research complex. Publications of Western countries, including the United States, once misled the public by saying that we are hiding huge secret nuclear facilities in these underground air raid shelters.

In addition to the places mentioned above, we showed him a uranium mine, a uranium ore plant, and all research institutes.

After nuclear inspections began, we helped inspectors in every way so that they could review our primary report on nuclear materials and the report on specifications on inspection targets as soon as possible. We provided them with all documents showing past nuclear activities at all of our nuclear facilities.

[Panelist] Yes, we did. Managers and operators of our facilities made sincere efforts to have IAEA inspectors conduct nuclear inspections in our country without difficulty, by offering every convenience to them.

Before conducting nuclear inspections in our country, IAEA inspectors demanded documents backing up the primary report we submitted, saying that our explanation and looking at facilities were not enough to verify it. However, we did not have any document prepared in advance for nuclear inspections, so we showed them the original files on our researchers' analyses, experiments, and (?questions) just as they were.

We also showed them research papers and documents on design, which are irrelevant to implementation of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord. We did not have to show them these papers and documents, but we opened them up as a part of our sincere efforts to prove our nuclear activities are innocent.

In addition, we let our researchers leave their work to help the inspectors. During the inspection periods, IAEA inspectors looked at hundreds of pages of documents on our research activities and made copies of all the important ones for their own use.

[Yi] That means they learned a lot of scientific and technological knowledge from our country when they came here for nuclear inspections.

[Panelist] That is right. Given the documents they have seen when they visited our facilities, they must have fully understood our nuclear activities to date.

[Panelist] That is right. The atomic power plant also provided the inspectors with enough documents necessary. We showed the inspectors not only the (?three documents) on nuclear material but the design drawing of the nuclear reactor as well. The design drawing of the

nuclear reactor is a secret technological document which the inspectors do not have a right to demand to see nor do we have the obligation to show them. Nevertheless, we showed them the design drawing. We also showed them the major facilities of the nuclear reactor and allowe ! them to take pictures upon their request.

We also gave them the documents on the operation (?data) of the nuclear reactor, the curve showing the monthly output of the nuclear reactor from the physical test in 1985 to the present, as well as its test data and computation data. The head of the inspection team and the inspectors thanked us many times for the data we gave them.

[Panelist] Moreover, we even showed them the paper we wrote when we conducted a basic plutonium test 18 years ago in 1975. According to the IAEA regulations, we do not have to do this. What we should do according to the regulations are two things. One is the initial report, and the other is the design notification. Nevertheless, we showed them everything.

[Panelist] We not only showed the inspectors all of the necessary recorded documents and data but actively assisted them in taking samples in the facilities.

[Yi] I suppose that a very dangerous and complex process was involved in assisting the inspectors in conducting the on-the-spot verifications, including taking the samples.

[Panelist] That is right. At our atomic power plant we helped the inspectors a lot in the on-the-spot inspections and on-the-spot assessment [hyonjang chukchung]. The inspectors' assessment of damaged fuel is an example. Damaged fuel is fuel that is removed because it was damaged during the operation of the nuclear reactor. Because this fuel is burned in the nuclear reactor, the radioactivity is very high. Because it is damaged, it is a very dangerous process to help with the assessment as it gives off dust which can find its way into the body.

However, we demonstrated a spirit of cooperation and sincerely guaranteed the very complicated and dangerous work of taking out damaged fuel from the nuclear fuel storage house and taking it to the spot for assessment. Even under this kind of dangerous condition we demonstrated a spirit of cooperation and helped the inspectors' assessment.

[Panelist] You just said that we sincerely helped the inspectors in the assessment of our power stations. Under a very difficult and complicated condition, our Radioactive Chemistry Research Institute obtained many samples so that the inspectors could analyze them. To verify the design notification and primary report we submitted, they demanded that waste water be extracted from the waste water tank for analysis. Because a waste water tank is not necessary in our facilities, there are no facilities for sampling. Therefore, we created facilities for sampling as soon as possible and obtained samples for them. They also demanded that we conduct sampling in an airtight room in our Radioactive Chemistry Research Institute. Since materials that are dealt with at our Radioactive Chemistry Research Institute are highly radioactive, we cannot touch the materials directly. All work is conducted by remote control in an airtight room. Therefore, it is very difficult to obtain samples. They are well aware of this.

However, since it is necessary to obtain samples for a complete and accurate verification of the design notification and primary report submitted by our country, we obtained samples and allowed the inspectors to analyze them. We took out the existing facilities and created new facilities for sampling.

Originally, obtaining samples and analyzing them was not a condition. However, to verify and prove our innocence we allowed samples to be obtained. Because we are completely innocent and the design notification is flawless, it was possible for us to take such dangerous risks and demonstrate a great spirit of cooperation.

[Panelist] That is not all. When it was impossible to obtain samples through this method, there were times when people obtained samples by going through a ventilating hole. Moreover, we accepted all of the inspectors' demands even though it was inconvenient for us while operating our facilities. That is, we accepted demands by the inspectors that were necessary in their verification work and in putting on seals and installing surveillance cameras for all facilities.

[Panelist] When inspectors verify nuclear materials, seals are put on and surveillance cameras are installed as supplementary devices. In principle, seals and surveillance cameras are put on and installed after agreed upon in the supplementary regulations. However, in our case, even though the supplementary regulations were not yet effective, we accepted all of their demands.

[Yi] You mean during the irregular [pijonggi] inspection?

[Panelist] Yes. We [words indistinct] at the place they demanded. The inspectors are to give advance notification of one week when they install the surveillance cameras, that is, ask the side installing the surveillance cameras to make preparations for the installment at such and such a place. However, in this case, even though the inspectors were not able to give advance notification, we accepted all of their demands in accordance with the appointed time. This is very rare. We were really very cooperative.

[Panelist] Because we sincerely and actively cooperated with the inspectors, they gave us unsparing praise many times for our sincere cooperation during the six inspections. They also expressed gratitude and satisfaction.

[Panelist] During the whole period of the six irregular inspections, I accompanied the head of the IAEA's inspection delegation. He thanked me on various occasions and unsparingly praised us on how we had truly

helped them. As the comrade director of the Radioactive Chemistry Research Institute said, when we obtained samples for them from waste water or when we gave samples to them from power stations under difficult conditions, they applauded us. He asked me to convey their greetings to the operators on several occasions.

[Yi] Through your comments, I believe it is clear to everyone that our republic's government received six IAEA irregular inspections very sincerely, which is in accordance with the obligation of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord. We shall end our talk here. Next time we will talk about how it was inevitable for our republic's government to take a resolute measure of withdrawing from the NPT.

People in South Support NPT Action

SK2503131393 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1023 GMT 25 Mar 93

["'North Where the Leader and People Are United Rockfirm'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 25 (KCNA)—Voices expressing full support to the DPRK Government statement on its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) are ringing out from among the South Korean people.

A Choe working at the Korea Electric Power Corporation said that the withdrawal from the NPT was a self-defensive step which could be taken only by such an independent and sovereign state both nominally and virtually as the North.

He said the South Korean ruling authorities who are pushing the situation to the brink of war, siding with the United States in crying for "sanctions," had better stop immediately their acts leading to self-destruction.

A certain Kim in Seoul said no force on earth can frighten the North where sovereignty is held dearer than life and the leader and the people are united rockfirm to defend it.

Yi Song-ok, a feminist, said the North's declaration of withdrawal from the NPT is "a patriotic step for the nation, a historical measure giving strength and new hope to us."

A lawyer Kim said "The North's measure is a stunning act dealing a sledge-hammer blow to the United States which was acting as an 'apostle of justice' brandishing the policy of strength, and giving an inspiration to the efforts of the world public aspiring after international justice."

A Ho, doctor of medicine residing in Seoul, said the North administered a telling blow to the United States, awakening the U.S.-worshippers from a state of intoxication and changing the international atmosphere.

South Paper Interviews Student Council Leaders

SK2503131693 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1026 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 25 (KCNA)—CHUNG-ANG HERALD, the gazette of Chungang University in Seoul, March 8 carried an interview with Kim Chae-yong, chairman of the General Student Council of Hanyang University and interim chairman of the preparatory committee for the Formation of the National Federation of General Student Councils (Chonchongnyon).

Saying the part and parcel of the work of Chonchongnyon is to fight for the complete elimination of the "National Security Law" within this year, he declared that it would have this matter dealt with comprehensively at the extraordinary "National Assembly" session slated for September.

He said the "reform" by the present "regime" "is a reformist step for a mere show and is limited within the conservative system," announcing that the activist student camp would launch into a fight to cope with it.

U.S., South Korea Hold Air Exercises 24 Mar

SK2603051193 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0451 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets on March 24 staged a joint air war exercise against the North in the skies above Muju, Kongju, Pyongchang and Andong in South Korea with more than 360 warplanes of different types including scores of nuclear-capable fighter-bombers and pursuit planes, according to military sources.

The war game held with the support of observation planes was a dangerous gamble aimed at increasing the capabilities of coordinated operation of flying groups of different types and a total surprise air strike at the northern half of Korea.

On the same day, some 100 fighter-bombers, pursuit planes and assault planes flying above Oeyon Islet, Chongju, Hoengsong and Yongwol staged a frantic air battle exercise for air supremacy under different circumstances. And over 50 fighter planes held a ground attack support exercise in the skies above Kapyong and Pochon.

In another development, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets that day staged a landing exercise in a coastal area similar to that of the northern half of Korea by mobilizing scores of combatant ships, landing craft groups, flying groups and naval artillery, and a naval warfare exercise for the command for the sea and a naval attack exercise in the sea off Kangnung.

The total number of the warplanes and naval warships mobilized in the war maneuvers in South Korea on March 24 alone exceeded 650 and 150 respectively.

Koreans in U.S. Reportedly Send Protest Letters

SK2603114093 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1028 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—Korean residents in the United States reportedly sent more than 5,000 letters to the U.S. President from February 14 to March 14, on the initiative of the American headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon), protesting against the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

In the letters they strongly demanded an end to the criminal warmaneuvers.

Chairman Yang Un-sik and members of the headquarters appeared on local radios exposing the unjustifiable nature of the joint military exercises and the clamor for "special inspection" and denouncing the U.S. attitude thereupon.

The SINHAN MINBO widely introduced and propagandized among the Korean residents and their organizations the DPRK Government statement declaring its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Koreans in Russia Send Letter to U.S. President

SK2603113193 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1024 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—Organizations of Koreans in Russia, the Committee of Korean War Veterans in Russia, the Committee for the Promotion of Korea's Reunification in Russia, the Moscow City Committee of Women in Russia and the CIS Committee of Participants in the Afghan war sent a letter to U.S. President Bill Clinton in joint name on March 18 urging the relaxation of the tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Saying the grave situation on the Korean peninsula has been created by the pressure for a "special inspection" of the DPRK and by the resumption of the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, the letter stresses the DPRK's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) is a self-defensive measure to safeguard the sovereignty of the country against unjustifiable pressure.

"The relaxation of the tensions on the Korean peninsula is impossible unless the 'Team Spirit' war game is stopped and the U.S. nuclear weapons and depots are dismantled from South Korea," the letter says, urging him to take relevant steps.

Spokesman Urges 'Comfort Women' Compensation

SK2603111493 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1101 GMT 26 Mar 93

["'Fund' Without Compensation Is Not Solution to 'Comfort Women' Problem"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—The Japanese authorities must not make a foolish attempt to bury in obscurity the past crimes, and the South Korean authorities must throw off their inveterate spirit of flunkeyist treachery and their habit of undermining the dignity and interests of the nation in conspiracy with outside forces, says a spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry in a statement today. Drawing attention to the ill-boding sign that the Japanese Government and the South Korean authorities are scheming to hush up the problem of "comfort women for the army," he notes:

"According to foreign press reports, the Japanese Government will propose to set up a 'fund,' not compensation, for 'comfort women' and the chief executive of South Korea said 'material compensation will not be demanded' as regards the 'comfort women' problem. Japan and the South Korean authorities agreed to hold 'summit talks' in a short time to seek a final solution of the 'comfort women' problem and other pending issues.

"This is a very sinister act; the Japanese Government and the South Korean authorities are attempting to hush up the 'comfort women' problem in conspiracy with each other, avoiding at any cost the compensation, the important matter arising in solving this problem which is regarded as a very serious problem in the international community.

"Our people, the Asian people and the international community can hardly repress consternation and resentment at the unreasonable act of the Japanese authorities.

"The problem of the 'comfort women for the army' is a matter of the meanest inhuman act previously unknown in human history and in the history of wars and the blackest crime of human rights abuse which falls under the 'crime against humanism' in view of international law.

"So, it must not be solved by something like a 'fund', instead of compensation.

"The Japanese Government must not attempt to reach a 'political solution' of the problem through underhand dealings with the South Korean authorities but resolve it by means of a thoroughgoing investigation into the crimes, a clear apology and compensation as a material token of atonement. To this end, it must investigate and make public, first of all, the crimes including the forcible drafting of the 'comfort women for the army' at an early date.

"Since new crimes committed by the Japanese imperialists in the past including the problem of the 'comfort women for the army' have been exposed and it has been made clear that compensation claims of all the victims including those drafted by force were totally ignored in 1965 when the 'Japan-South Korea treaty on basic relations' was concluded, the Japanese Government must no longer talk about the 'validity' of the 'treaty'".

Japanese Plan To Import Tritium From Canada Denounced

SK2603062893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0458 GMT 26 Mar 93

["Nuclear Fanaticism Carried Into Extremes"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—The Japanese Government's plan to ship tritium, an H-bomb material, from Canada in October reveals its bloated arrogance in pushing ahead with its nuclear program with increased frenzy, says NODONG SINMUN today.

The news analyst notes:

Japan has stockpiled large quantities of plutonium and is planning to purchase 400 more tons of it in 30 years to come. When this plan is carried out, Japan will be one of the biggest possessors of plutonium in the world. It has made full material and technological preparations for the manufacture of nuclear weapons. It can make atomic bombs any time it decides to. Now it wants to become a nuclear power by manufacturing satanic H-bombs.

It is for the purpose of justifying their nuclear armament design that the Japanese ruling quarters are persistently spreading the rumor about "nuclear suspicion" against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, taking issue with its withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

The conversion of Japan into a nuclear power will bring nothing good to the country. The Japanese ruling quarters are forgetful of the serious lesson, bewitched by nuclear arms.

Japan must give up its nuclear design and cancel the plan to transport tritium. This will be good for Japan.

Japan-Korea Friendship Data Center Opens in Tokyo

SK2603113893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Tokyo, March 24 (KNS-KCNA)—The Japan-Korea Friendship Data Centre was inaugurated here recently.

A roundtable took place on March 18 in this regard.

Present at the roundtable were advisors to the centre Hajime Ishii, chairman of the Dietmen's league for the promotion of Japan-Korea friendship and Liberal-Democratic Member of the House of Representatives, Noboru Mama and Masao Yoshida, Social-democratic members of the House of Representatives, and Akira Iwai, chairman of the Japan Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, and chairman of the Centre Yoshimuki Oe, president of the Japan SBB company Ltd., and directors of the centre and personages of different strata.

Speaking on the occasion, the chairman of the centre said the purpose of the inauguration of the centre is to create an asset for the expansion of exchange between the peoples of the two countries through the press media and to correctly introduce and propagate the real looks of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea among broad strata of Japanese people.

UNDP, DPRK Sign Agreement on 'Cooperation Projects'

SK2603051393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—An agreement on cooperation projects related to the Anju Mining Engineering Institute and tourism development was signed here Thursday between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Development Program [UNDP].

Under the agreement scientific and technological problems in mining engineering will be solved to help increase production at coal mines and a scientific perspective plan of tourism by latest means of technology will be mapped out and the level of services be enhanced to develop tourism.

The projects will cost 1.57 million dollars.

The signing ceremony was attended by officials concerned and Henning Karcher, UNDP representative in Korea.

O Chin-u Greets New Yugoslav Defense Minister

SK2503124393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1110 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 25 (KCNA)—Marshal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to Pavle Bulatovic [spelling as received] upon his appointment as minister of national defence of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Believing that the friendly relations between the armies of the two countries would develop in good terms in the future, the message wished the minister a success in his responsible work to strengthen the defence capabilities of the country.

Residents Accelerate Work To Assist KPA Soldiers

SK2603101693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 22 Mar 93

[Text] According to a report by central radio reporter Kim Tae-chu, the party members and the working people in Uiju County have a burning hatred for the U.S. imperialists aggressors, our people's arch-enemies. They are upholding the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander's order of proclaiming a semi-war state which he proclaimed to the whole country, all the

people, and the entire army. They are vigorously accelerating the work to assist the People's Army.

Pak Sun-nam and her son Kim Kyong-nam, living in No. 56 in Uiju down, said that only when the People's Army is strong can the country be strong. They also said that only when the People's Army is strong can it defeat the enemies' aggressive maneuvers in a timely manner. They acquired many supplies and visited a Korean People's Army [KPA] unit to which Kim Myong-su belongs.

Family members of Comrade Paek Yong-chun, a veteran living in Uiju down, sincerely acquired supplies some days ago and visited a KPA unit to which Kim Myong-su belongs.

They delivered supplies to soldiers and congratulated them on their success in training. They asked soldiers to repulse the enemies with one blow and to reunify the country, should the enemies ignite the fuse of a war.

Daily Carries Article on 'Anthropocentric Socialism'

SK2503124693 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1053 GMT 25 Mar 93

["Anthropocentric Socialism, Embodiment of Chuche Idea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 25 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN here today says in a by-lined article that our anthropocentric socialism which embodies the chuche idea is the life and soul of our people.

The article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying:

"Our socialism is an anthropocentric socialism which embodies the chuche idea".

The article says in part:

The essential characteristics and advantages of socialism are defined by the idea by which its construction and development are guided.

Our anthropocentric socialism has its origin in the chuche idea and its advance and development are guided by the chuche idea.

The advantages and uniqueness, solidness and vitality of our socialism are unthinkable apart from the chuche idea which correctly indicates the road of socialism.

The essential advantages of our socialism, embodiment of the chuche idea, lie, first of all, in that the popular masses are masters of everything.

Our socialist society is a most stable society in the political aspect in which the political rights of the people are fully guaranteed legally and socially and there are no social evils which violate and infringe upon the sovereignty and dignity of the popular masses.

Under our socialist systam all the working people take an active part in the exercise of their rights as masters of economic life and they are also creators and masters of ideological and cultural life.

The essential advantages of our socialism embodying the chuche idea also lie in that it is a most popular society where everything serves people.

The essential advantages derive their origin from the most superior popular policy that the party and the state are entirely responsible for the people's life.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who has devoted all his thinking and activities to people shapes popular policies for the promotion of people's welfare.

The happiness of our people today and their hope tomorrow are impossible apart from our socialism.

Pomminnyon Inaugurates Publication 25 Mar

SK2603062293 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0446 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—The North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) held a readers meeting at the conference room of the headquarters on March 25 upon the publication of the first issue of "GREAT NATIONAL UNITY," its organ.

Present there were Chon Kum-chol, Kim Yong-ho and other vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon, editorial members of the organ and many readers in Pyongyang.

The participants said in unison that the inaugural number was well edited in its content and form to suit the character of Pomminnyon and the characteristics of its movement and the Korean nation's desire for reunification.

They expressed their determination to edit the organ, on the basis of the experience in publishing the first issue, to be widely read among the compatriots at home and abroad and to closely unite them under the banner of great national unity and thus make an active contribution to achieving reunification in the 90s.

People To Maintain Upsurge in Production, Construction

SK2603115093 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1052 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—The Korean working people, upon receiving the order of Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, to lift the semi-war state which had been proclaimed to the whole country, people and army, are now determined to maintain the revolutionary upsurge in production and construction in the spirit that they displayed during the semi-war period and defend Korean-style socialism like an impregnable fortress.

Hyon Yo-chin, director of the Sunchon district coal mining complex, said that during the days of the semi-war the Korean people accelerated socialist construction, fully alerted for combat action, to powerfully demonstrate to the whole world that Korea is a socialist power of chuche with political and military might which no one can dare provoke.

"Though the semi-war state was lifted now, there remains the touch-and-go situation in which a war may break out any moment. So, we will keep ourselves in full combat readiness and fully display the spirit that we showed in the days of the semi-war to fulfil the march assignments and the first quarterly plan ahead of schedule and greet the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Fatherland Liberation War with a high degree of political enthusiasm and tremendous achievements in production," he added.

Kim To-son, chairman of the Sinchon County, South Hwanghae Province, administrastive and economic committee, said that the officials and working people of the county, intensely loyal to the party's leadership would bring about a new revolutionary turn in socialist economic construction in the spirit that they displayed in the period of the semi-war and reliably defend the socialist system and the happiness of the people.

Kim Chae-hyon, secretary of the primary committee of the Workers' Party of Korea of the Chonsong Youth Coal Mine of the Sunchon district coal mining complex, said that socialism was the life and soul of the Korean people. "We think that the imperialists will persist in their vicious attempt to stifle our blessed system," he noted, and declared:

"The coal mine which successfully fulfilled the March assignments and the first quarterly plan in the period of the semi-war will carry out the first half-year plan ahead of schedule by putting spurs to production in the same spirit."

KCNA Reviews 26 Mar Pyongyang Press

SK2603061793 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0509 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 26 (KCNA)—All papers here today give frontpage prominence to a message of thanks sent by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, to the officers and men of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces, the members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards and the Young Red Guards and the entire party members and working people for having displayed a high degree of loyalty in the struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and the gains of the revolution.

Seen in the press is a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Bangladesh President Abdur Rahman Biswar on the 22nd anniversary of the independence of Bangladesh.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that functions were held in Austria and Ghana to celebrate the birthday of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The paper gives accounts of rallies of youth and students held in different parts of the country to vow to thoroughly fulfil the tasks set forth in the letter of President Kim Il-song to the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea.

Printed in the daily is a solidarity letter to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il from Alvaro Cunhal, chairman of the National Council of the Communist Party of Portugal denouncing the "Team Spirit" joint military maneuvers and the "special inspection" campaign of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities.

Appearing in the paper is a solidarity letter to Comrade Kim Chong-il from Sam Marcy, chairman of the Workers World Party of the United States of America, supporting the statement of the DPRK Government.

Papers report that letters came to Comrade Kim Chong-il from foreign public figures and Koreans in Japan and that foreign media reported about a brief history of his revolutionary activities.

NODONG SINMUN carries a message of greetings sent by the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea to Jiuni Luigi Gino on his election as president of the Italian Socialist Party.

MINJU CHOSON comes out with an article declaring that the Korean people's army has grown into a matchless army and ever-victorious revolutionary Armed Forces under the wise guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Under the bannerline title "Leadership Ability of Supreme Commander of Korean People's Army [KPA] Demonstrated" the press informs the readers that foreign media gave wide publicity to the communique of the supreme command of the KPA on lifting the state of semi-war.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article titled "Party Leadership of Revolution and Construction is Political Leadership."

Under the headline "Comrade Kim Chong-il is Master of Ideology and Theory in Present Time" the paper conveys voices of world political and public circles praising the immortal ideological and theoretical exploits performed by him.

Papers report that working people, upon hearing the communique of the supreme command of the KPA, are effecting a great upsurge in economic construction in high spirits as victors.

NODONG SINMUN observes the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Kwail County integrated fruit farm, a major fruit producer of the nation.

The paper introduces hero of the Republic An Tong-hyok, private first class of the unit of the Korean People's Army to which Tong Yong-il belongs, who died in saving his post and comrades by covering a handgrenade on the verge of explosion while on duty at the outpost of national defence.

Papers carry a statement issued by the Korean National Peace Committee supporting the DPRK Government's statement declaring its withdrawal from the Nonproliferation Treaty, and the reaction of home and foreign public to it.

Papers inform the readers that a readers' meeting was held at the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification on the publication of the first issue of its organ "GREAT NATIONAL UNITY."

The Rev. Mun Ik-hwan of South Korea branded foreign pressure as the biggest obstacle to reunification, says the press.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets continuously staged war exercises against the North, according to papers.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland issued Information No. 624 denouncing outbursts of bellicose elements of the U.S. seeking the aggravation of tensions on the Korean peninsula.

The paper says in an article that 6,300 puppet army soldiers of student origin of South Korea who were said to have committed "suicide" in the "Fifth Republic" of Chon Tu-hwan were in fact murdered.

The paper runs a commentary on the Japanese Government's plan of transport of tritium.

Papers report that Fidel Castro said valiant fighting of all people leads to victory, China expressed its principled position for the solution of the Hong Kong problem and Malaysia warned the United States not to act indiscreetly.

Papers observe the 22nd anniversary of the independence of Bangladesh.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article captioned "Reactionary Nature of Bourgeois Individualism Cannot Be Concealed."

South Korea

Reaction to DPRK NPT Withdrawal Continues

Minister: PRC To Persuade DPRK

SK2603011193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0044 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] New York, March 25 [date as received] (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Thursday that he believed that the North Korean nuclear issue would not result in United Nations economic sanctions against Pyongyang. There was a strong possibility the problem caused by North Korea's decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) would be settled before it forced the U.N. Security Council to impose economic sanctions, Han said.

"China eventually will take up the task of persuading North Korea and the timing will be around April or May," Han told Korean correspondents in New York. The Security Council would adopt a resolution at least twice on the North Korean nuclear issue, said Han, who arrived here Monday for a round of talks with U.N. Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali and envoys to the world body. The resolution, which could be adopted two weeks before North Korea's decision takes effect on June 12, would be crucial for the solution of the issue, Han said.

He said he didn't believe China would use its veto, but that it would persuade North Korea before the end of May against leaving the NPT. The North Korean nuclear issue was not a question that could be resolved quickly, Han said, it had to be tackled on a long-term basis. Han said he would ask U.S. Government leaders in Washington to assume a strong leadership in the U.N. Security Council.

Asked if he had discussed with Butrus-Ghali the possibility of dispatching a special U.N. envoy to North Korea, Han said he was told the secretary-general could express or convey his concern (to North Korea) individually but dispatch of an official U.N. delegation including a special envoy was impossible unless the Security Council asked for it. Han said Butrus-Ghali had not mentioned, but he had the impression, that he would discuss with some of the Security Council members the North Korean nuclear issue.

Minister: PRC Opposed to UNSC Talks

SK2503235493 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 25 Mar 93

[By correspondents Kim Chin-su and Choe Tae-hui at UN headquarters]

[Text] Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, on a visit to UN headquarters, met with Chen Jian, PRC representative to the UN, early this morning [Korean standard time]. In the meeting, Foreign Minister Han confirmed that PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen's opposition to referring North Korea's nuclear issue to the UN remained the

PRC's true position. Minister Han then asked for constructive cooperation from the PRC.

Representative Chen Jian responded by saying that the ROK and the PRC Governments share the same goal in terms of denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula but that the PRC's position that North Korea's nuclear issue should be resolved first through the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] remains true. Earlier, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu met with New Zealand Ambassador O'Brien, who heads the Security Council for March, and Pakistani Ambassador Marker, O'Brien's successor in April. In the meetings, Minister Han stressed that it is necessary for the UN Security Council to impose diplomatic pressure upon North Korea because North Korea's nuclear issue will surely pass from the IAEA to present itself on the UN Security Council's agenda next month.

In response to this, Chairman O'Brien said all member countries of the UN Security Council realize the seriousness of North Korea's nuclear issue. Chairman O'Brien added that he had met with Pak Ki-yon, North Korea's representative to the UN, after North Korea's declaration to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and had told him that the international society recognizes North Korea's nuclear issue as being very serious.

UN Official on UNSC 'Central Role'

SK2603044493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0403 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] United Nations, March 25 [date as received] (YONHAP)—China advised South Korea and the international community Thursday to wait "with patience" in solving North Korea's nuclear problem. Chen Jian, Chinese ambassador to the United Nations, counseled "consultation and dialogue" with Pyongyang in trying to bring it back to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections.

The Chinese envoy delivered the often-repeated message to visiting South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, ensuring him that Beijing, for its part, was doing its best to convince North Korea. Pyongyang announced earlier this month it was leaving the NPT, thus freeing itself from IAEA inspections on its highly suspected nuclear program.

Seoul is asking Beijing to intervene as the IAEA readies to pass on the issue to the U.N. Security Council [UNSC] early next month. Han told the Chinese ambassador that the international community expects Beijing to exert best influence [as received] on Pyongyang as a close ally and that Beijing should pay special efforts on this particular issue.

Chen's response, South Korean officials interpreted, does not peg down China's future action toward the North Korean nuclear issue, saying the ambassador specifically made clear to foreign minister that both Seoul and Beijing have the same goal in mind—denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Chen said China, too, was concerned that North Korea had bolted the NPT, officials said.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said earlier this week his country opposes bringing up the issue at the UNSC, but Han said the Security Council will take action before April 10, casting the key element on China's response. Beijing insists the IAEA must exhaust all efforts before the United Nations gets involved, a stance Seoul officials believe is intended to give China the justification in joining coordinated U.N. actions against North Korea later. Han also met with Pakistan Ambassador Jamshed Marker, who will be chairing the UNSC for April, asking him for diplomatic cooperation as the council chairman when North Korea's nuclear agenda comes up for discussion.

Marker expressed keen interest in the issue, especially from the position of a Pakistani official, Han's aides said. Pakistan, a non-NPT member, is in nuclear competition with India. Such conditions worry Seoul that Pakistan may be more condoning to North Korea. Marker said the successful denuclearization of the Korean peninsula will set an example to other volatile regions like Southwest Asia and promised close consultation with South Korea, Seoul officials said.

Han's contacts included New Zealand Ambassador Terence O'Brien, UNSC chairman for this month. The foreign minister emphasized that time has come for the security council to take the leading role in restoring the North Korean nuclear controversy. He especially called for measures to keep North Korea bound under inspection even if it formally leaves NPT after the three-month waiting period.

O'Brien told Han he contacted North Korean ambassador to the United Nations Pak Kil-yon and explained the serious implication of Pyongyang's decision to leave NPT, officials said. His talks with individual members of the Security Council show how seriously they take the current situation and how they await results of IAEA's special Board of Governors' session on March 31, the agency's deadline for North Korea to comply with IAEA inspections on two suspected sites. The ambassador promised that the Security Council will assume the central role in finding the solution to the current stalemate, officials said.

Former DPRK Official Plans Government-in-Exile

SK2603115293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1053 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Bangkok, March 26 (YONHAP)—A former senior North Korean official who escaped the communist country in the late 1950s, said here on Friday that he plans to set up a North Korean government in exile in Japan within the year. Pak Kap-tong, age 74, who has been indulging in anti-Kim Il-song activities in Japan,

said he was here in Bangkok to attend a regional preparatory meeting of the world human rights conference slated for coming June in Vienna.

"At the Vienna meeting, I will expose the pitiful human rights situation of North Korea and will challenge the Pyongyang regime to account for the purge of about 50 intellectuals who returned from the former Soviet Union to North Korea after the end of World War II," Pak said. Pak is chairman of the "Front for Democratic Unification and Salvation of Korea," an anti-Pyongyang organization formed in Moscow in January last year among about 80 expelled former North Korean officials.

Saying that he believes the Kim Il-song regime would collapse in two years, Pak vowed that he would carry on struggles against the Pyongyang regime until the 20 million North Koreans are liberated from the communist dictatorship. Pak was one of key aides of Kim Il-song during the Korean war. Upon the end of the war, however, he was among those scapegoated for the North's failure to conquer the South in the war. He managed to flee from North Korea in a daring escape in 1957 after learning in prison that his wife and six children were executed.

DPRK Said To Continue Economic Cooperation With West

SK2603092393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0711 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—North Korea appears unswerving in its policy of promoting economic cooperation with Western nations while confronting them on the political front over its decision to pull out of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Textile engineers from North Korea are in Japan for training at Yuka Pattern System Co. from March 26 to April 16, the first time anyone from the reclusive communist state has been sent on a course in a capitalist country, sources say.

Students and technicians went only to the Soviet Union, Eastern European countries and China for training in the past. North Korea sharply hiked exports of men's suits to Japan recently thanks to its focus on the garment industry, but it lacks computer-aided design technology and the training program in Japan may be intended to acquire this technology, the sources say.

Pyongyang sponsored an international meeting on North Korea's economy in Dusseldorf, Germany, on March 22, when it was still in a state of semi-war in response to joint South Korea-U.S. military exercises. In the meeting, North Korean officials fishing for Western investment explained their policy of promoting international economic cooperation and described the advantages of investing in free trade ports such as Sonbong and Najin.

A German businessman was reported as saying after the meeting that seven German firms would send technicians to North Korea in April. North Korea recently agreed with Thailand to open a direct air route between Pyongyang and Bangkok, chiefly for Thai tourists, and bought 100,000 tons of Thai rice with payment due after two years.

Foreign Minister To Meet Clinton in Washington 26 Mar

SK2603054993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0528 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Washington, March 25 [date as received] (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu meets U.S. President Bill Clinton for concentrated talks on bilateral security and trade issues and on North Korea's suspected nuclear program Friday. Han, who arrived the previous night after a three-day consultative visit to the United Nations, begins his packed schedule with Secretary of Defense Les Aspin and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor in morning talks. He then heads to the White House to see National Security Council Adviser Anthony Lake for a brief session before meeting with Clinton.

The foreign minister pushed up his U.S. visit by a few weeks after North Korea announced March 12 it was withdrawing from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT). Han and Clinton are expected to discuss joint measures to counter North Korea's action and to draw up bilateral strategic plans. This is the first meeting between the new administrations of the two countries and Han has a broad agenda for his stay in the capital, including meetings with academic and congressional representatives.

Han is to see Secretary of State Warren Christopher in the afternoon for specific talks on the nuclear issue, with emphasis on follow-up actions after the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) passes the North Korean nuclear agenda to the U.N. Security Council early next month. He has a working breakfast scheduled with William Clarke, assistant secretary of state for East Asia and the Pacific, and lunch with Deputy Secretary of State Cliff Wharton.

The foreign minister will propose a Seoul-Washington summit even before Clinton goes to Tokyo in July for the G-7 meeting, after which he may also visit Seoul. He is to emphasize to U.S. leaders that while North Korea's nuclear problem is a global issue, challenging the international consensus on nuclear nonproliferation, it is also an inter-Korean matter, directly affecting South Korea and security on the Korean peninsula.

Kim Urges Senior Officials To Lead 'New Korea'

SK2503132293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1054 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam urged senior public officials on Thursday to take the lead in building a "New Korea." In personal messages addressed to some 35,000 sub-section chiefs and higher officials across the country, President Kim

said. "You should be the first to change and become clean-handed, and shoulder more pains." Saying that public officials are supposed to serve, not reign over, the people, the president stressed that government officials should read the face of people, not that of higher officials, in carrying out their duties.

"I heard that there is a strained air in the public officialdom because of the on-going anti-corruption drive, but our reform is not to dig into one's past or to eliminate some individuals, but to build a bright and clean tomorrow," he said. President Kim said he is really sorry for the frozen public officials' salaries. "But, I am positive that if you only endure a little more pains, a great reward would surely come to us before long," the president said.

YONHAP Views Kim Yong-sam's Anticorruption Drive

SK2603050793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0332 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—When Kim Yong-sam became president a month ago, he asked the nation's politicians for two things: Their unreserved support for his anti-corruption drive and to share the burden. As part of his efforts to root out corruption from this country, Kim declared that he would not receive any money by way of political contribution during his five-year tenure. It was a warning to all politicians that they should not receive any money either. It also was an "unwritten guarantee" for big businessmen that they could do their business without being forced to contribute funds to political parties and the government any more.

With one clear declaration, in other words, Kim decisively and completely cut off the "dark link" between the political and business circles that had been the main, cancerous cause of corruption for decades. The declaration is already having far-reaching and serious repercussions throughout the country.

One of the immediate and obvious effects was the action by the ruling Democratic Liberal Party to reduce its organization and structure and cut manpower as the main source of its funds quickly dried up. The number of politicians begging businessmen for money has reportedly shrunk sharply. At the same time, political parties are debating the need for revision of the laws governing parliamentary elections, political fundraising and political parties to provide the kind of systems that could ensure "clean politics."

In order to help realize clean politics, the ruling party has said it will carry out fair and corruption-free campaigns for by-elections in three districts to be held in April. In symbolic moves, President Kim has opened the road in front of the presidential office and residence of Chongwadae and destroyed the so-called anga, or safe houses, in the neighborhood, where all kinds of dark political schemes and dirty tricks were hatched during the three decades of authoritarian governments.

Kim has also appointed several politicians who had been in the opposition camp as presidential aides while the ruling party has decided to name a "progressive" former activist as its candidate in the upcoming by-election in the Kwangmyong district. Even Chungkuk Yonhap [National Alliance for Democracy and Reunification], an organization which was sharply critical of past governments and advocated their overthrow, voiced its support for the new administration's reform policy.

But no reform measure is more sharply felt and supported by a majority of the people than the disclosure of personal assets by ranking government officials and ruling party lawmakers. Such disclosures, which are unprecedented anywhere in the world, were being carried out, albeit voluntarily, under circumstances that can be described as almost revolutionary.

Some critics say President Kim has forced officials and ruling party lawmakers to disclose their personal assets with "an ulterior motive" and under a prescribed program. In a nutshell, they say, it was "a political purge" undertaken by Kim to solidify his power base before the parliamentary elections to be held in three years. Others express concern that the disclosures were carried out without preparations or before working out any measure to cope with possible adverse effects.

One thing is clear, however, Kim's reform drive, seemingly reckless and too forceful sometimes, is receiving overwhelming (70 percent or more) support of the people. He is undertaking reform armed not with guns and swords but with a clear national consensus.

Referring to the current political situation, one of Kim's aides doesn't hesitate to describe it as "a bloodless revolution." "Whether it (disclosure of assets) was intended or not, the result will be revolutionary," says one ruling party lawmaker who was a prime minister in the previous administration.

A number of observers say President Kim is plunging headlong into the unknown world of politics with his reform plans. But a high-ranking ruling party official dismisses their concern, saying "the president knows what he is doing and has a clear and definite program for reform." "Aren't the people applauding him?" he asks.

"Those who are being condemned by the people for their past mistakes should know what they have to do," the official says, requesting anonymity. There can be resistance from those with vested interests, the official says, but the president has a mandate from the people and he will be able to stop any resistance to his reform program with determination and the power of a democratically elected government.

YONHAP Assesses Kim Administration Accomplishments

SK2603020193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0037 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—An executive at the Daewoo Business Group says that he has found new zeal for his work these days because it has become so much easier to deal with government officials since President Kim Yong-sam's administration was launched a month ago. The overbearing attitude of bureaucrats, especially those at the Economic Planning Board and the Trade, Industry and Resources Ministry, has disappeared without a trace in this short span of time, marvels the executive, who wants to be identified only as Yi.

"Talking about a civilian and democratic government, this must be it," Yi says. He says he repeats these words to himself several times a day these days as he walks the corridors of government buildings on business. Yi is not the only one who feels the change.

From housewives who visit town offices to those who bring civil petitions to police stations or courts, citizens are witnessing an accelerating process in which decades-long authoritarianism and militarism are being dismantled in every corner of officialdom. As Kim Yong-sam's anti-corruption drive continues to spread, an atmosphere of self-discipline and austerity is noticeable among government officials.

This new and, indeed, refreshing atmosphere can be said to have been induced by the will of the president. But there is a motive, nevertheless, in the minds of most officials—they want to live up to the image of a civilian and democratic government that is to serve the people rather than dictate to them.

At a cabinet meeting on March 11, ministers adopted an eight-point resolution to establish a new image of public officials. This includes a call on officials not to give or receive expensive presents. The size of offices for ministers, which had been looked upon as a symbol of authority, has been reduced drastically while high-ranking government officials have stopped visiting golf courses, high-class restaurants and bars. Most lower-ranking officials naturally follow suit.

One by-product of these austerity moves was a sharp slump in business at expensive restaurants, bars, and other luxury entertainment establishments. Office cafeterias, on the other hand, picked up 30 percent or more business. Gone also are the bouquets of flowers sent by high government officials to funerals, weddings, receptions and other events. The government has also cut down on the cost of celebrations marking the beginning or end of public projects.

The most prominent change of all, however, is occurring in the performance of work itself. Hwang In-song, when named prime minister, vowed that he would make his office a role model for other government agencies as "an incubator" for work. Since his appointment, Hwang has been working even on Sundays, receiving reports from his secretaries. Unless he had outside appointments, he ate lunch in the office cafeteria with other ministers, using the time for policy discussions with them.

The recent voluntary disclosures of personal assets by high ranking government officials and lawmakers have also contributed to the atmosphere of change in bureaucracy. "The idea that you have to be clean and honest if you want a promotion in the future is being recognized by most low-ranking public servants now," an official at the prime minister's office said.

A series of drastic measures taken by President Kim, including the one that removed the barriers on the road leading to Chongwadae [presidential offices], has also helped create the environment in which the people find much easier access to government offices with their problems. Some skeptics and cynical commentators tend to reserve their judgement, citing the disappointing past experience where hopes and enthusiasm for newly inaugurated governments fizzled out as days passed by and old bureaucratic red tape as well as arrogance, waste and inefficiency crept back in.

In order to help President Kim create a "New Korea," they say, the atmosphere prevailing in government offices these days has to take firm root among bureaucrats. The government, in turn, has to provide fundamental and systematic support for the changed attitude of its officials to become permanent, they add.

Ministry Simplifies International Travel Procedures

SK2603025493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0130 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—Travelers to 16 former and present communist nations need only report their trip to an immigration office at the point of their departure from April 1, instead of reporting to the Foreign Ministry, or a city or provincial administration three days prior to the trip, the Justice Ministry said Thursday. People visiting former Soviet Republics, except the three Baltic countries (Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia), for a stay of 90 days or less, and people with multiple travel approval from the foreign minister for visits to China and three countries lacking diplomatic ties with Seoul—Laos, Cambodia, and Cuba—will only have to hand in a travel report to an immigration control office or branch office at ports.

But people visiting Laos, Cambodia, Cuba and China without multiple travel approval and those visiting the former Soviet Union for 91 days or more will still be required to obtain prior approval from the foreign minister, Justice Ministry officials said. The ministry will also consider simplifying travel procedures for visitors to the three countries that don't have ties with Korea so that the foreign minister's approval isn't needed, the officials said.

Director of Bank Supervision, Examination Named

SK2503132493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1223 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (YONHAP)—Yi Yong-song, president of the Industrial Bank of Korea, has been designated as director of the Office of Bank Supervision and Examination (OBSE). Finance Minister Hong Chae-hyong who serves as chairman of the Monetary Board asked board members on Thursday to recommend Yi as new OBSE director.

OBSE head is by law appointed by the president at the recommendation of the OBSE. It was learned that Yi is to be succeeded as Industrial Bank head by Second Assistant Finance Minister Pak Chong-sok.

Meanwhile, a government source said on Thursday a sweeping reshuffle would be effected possibly on Friday of the presidents, board chairmen and auditors of the 23 public enterprises, who are supposed to be appointed by the president.

In addition, the head of the Securities Supervisory Board and the members of the Monetary Board are also named by the president by law. The source said that Chong-wadae had told about 80 of these people appointed during the days of former President No Tae-u to tender resignation. Many of them will be reshuffled and their replacements would be announced on Friday at the earliest, the source said.

New Heads of State-Invested Banks Announced

SK2603092593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0827 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—The government announced the appointments of heads of state-invested banks and corporations Friday. Pak Chong-sok, second assistant finance minister, was named president of the Korea Housing Bank, Kim Yong-pin, assistant finance minister for planning and managment, president of the export-import Bank of Korea, and Yi U-yong, Bank of Korea deputy governor, president of the industrial Bank of Korea.

Kept in place were Yi Hyong-ku, president of the Korea Development Bank, Yi Kyu-chong, president of the Citizens' National Bank, Pak Chong-sok, bank superintendent, Wang Chang-ki, insurance superintendent, Hwang Won-o, president of the Korea Mint Corp., Kim Ki-in, president of the Korea Tobacco and Ginseng Corp., and Yi Hun-chae, permanent member of the Securities Supervisory Board (SSB).

Kim Chae-ki, president of the Korea Housing Bank, is likely to be named president of the Korea Exchange Bank at the annual general meeting early next month. Kang Pyong-ho, a professor at Hanyang University, was picked as a non-permanent member of the SSB.

Bank of Korea To Reduce Interest Rates 26 Mar

SK2503132193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0914 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (YONHAP)—The Bank of Korea's rediscount rates and the regulated interest rates of banks and non-bank financial institutions will be lowered by up to 1 percentage point effective March 26. The downward refitting of interest rates is the second to be effected in two months. A more extensive lowering was announced on last January 26.

The Finance Ministry and the Bank of Korea announced on Thursday that the lowering, however, does not apply to the bank interests of short-term deposits, 5 percent commercial bill rediscount rate and lower interest rates. Bank of Korea rediscount rates other than those for commercial bills will be lowered by 1.0 percentage point, bank loan interest rates by 0.5 to 1.0 percentage points, bank deposite rates by 0.5 percentage points, and the interest rates of non-bank financial institutions by 1.0 percentage point a year, respectively.

First Assistant Finance Minister Yi Hwan-kyon said that since actual interest rates are high given the price stability, it is believed that additional lowering won't lead to reduced savings or increased spending. Besides, he said, the further downward adjustment was needed in strengthening industrial competitiveness through reduced monetary expenses and in building up growth potentials of the economy.

Monetary officials said that the latest lowering will have the effect of reducing about 850 billion won in financial burdens on the part of industries. Such saving would swell to about 1,500 billion won when non-regulated and market interest rates go down as expected influenced by the lowering, the officials said.

Economic Board Reveals 1994 Budget Guidelines

SK2603014793 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 26 Mar 93 p 8

[Text] The Economic Planning Board [EPB] yesterday unveiled a package of guidelines for the formulation of the 1994 budget, calling for sharp cuts in ordinary government spending. Under the proposal, government ministries and their affiliated organizations will be required to slash the amount of ordinary expenses voluntarily before submitting their draft budgets to the Economic Planning Board, officials said.

Organizations and personnel of government agencies and state-invested companies and research institutes won't be allowed to expand, the EPB said. Specifically, the government will trim information fees by 10 percent, travel expenses by 5 percent, spending for office furniture and appliances by 3 percent and ceremonial fees by 30 percent. "The 1994 budget will be characterized by cuts in ordinary spending and rises in expenses for the strengthening of national competitiveness," an EPB official said.

The stringent steps to curb government spending are in line with President Kim Yong-sam's commitment to building a "small but strong" government, the officials said. The EPB guidelines call for a halt to the introduction of new welfare systems while trying to channel more funds into agricultural and industrial sectors. To secure more funds for traffic problems, oil-related taxes will be used for construction of roads, railroad and subway networks. Priorities of public works projects will also fall under reconsideration across the board so that pressing projects could get earlier starts, the EPB said. Grants for provincial governments and private institutes will be slashed significantly.

As a way to reform fiscal policies, the government will chart a mid-term fiscal plan under which management of the government budget will be conducted in a longer-term perspective, deviating from the past practice of setting up a single-year budget, the EPB said. The EPB enters into formulation of the 1994 budget on a full scale beginning in April. This year's budget formulation draws keen attention because the EPB is set to axe budgets of the country's powerful government organizations such as the Agency for National Security Planning and Chong-wadae [presidential offices].

Steel Exports Rise Despite U.S. Dumping Charges

SK2603025793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0225 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—South Korean steelmakers saw exports boom in the first two months, despite a preliminary dumping ruling against them by the U.S. Administration, thanks to brisk advancement in China and Southeast Asia, the Korea Iron and Steel Association (KOSA) said Friday. January-February shipments surged 52.8 percent over the same period last year to 1,032 million U.S. dollars on the great popularity of hot-rolled sheet in China and Southeast Asia, a KOSA spokesman said.

Exports to China shot up 459.6 percent to 214 million dollars in the first two months over the same period last year, driven by a construction boom in China that raised demand for hot-rolled steel pipes. Shipments to Southeast Asia soared 146 percent to 423 million dollars as Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. had started to supply its prefabricated structural steel products to Indian Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) this year.

But exports to the U.S. market shrank 27.4 percent to 72 million dollars, affected by the provisional dumping tariffs on Korean steelmakers after the U.S. Commerce Department found them underpricing their products on its market in January. Pohang Iron and Steel Co. (POSCO) shipped 110,000 tons more of its hot-rolled sheet than its initial target of 157,000 tons last month to China and Southeast Asia, and hopes to sell another 110,000 tons to 173,000 tons this month. Korea saw a surplus of 515 million dollars in steel trade in the first two months on imports of 517 million dollars.

DLP Representative Resigns Over Assets Disclosure

SK2603025993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0229 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—Rep. Yu Hak-song of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] announced Friday that he was resigning his seat in the National Assembly. "I am very sorry that I have brought trouble to my party, my constituents, and the nation in the course of revealing my wealth," Yu said in a statement that he released himself to the press room at party headquarters. "I resign my National Assembly seat in the judgement that I should not be a stumbling block in a drive for a new Korea," he said.

Yu, who had earlier expressed his willingness to resign as chairman of the National Assembly Defense Committee, said that he would set up a scholarship foundation as he had promised during the general election. The Army general-turned-politician, who once served as director of the Agency for National Security Planning under President Chon Tu-hwan, is suspected of amassing excessive wealth while a public official through such immoral means as real estate speculation and of deliberately failing to declare all of his property when he made his assets public.

DLP To Punish 15 Lawmakers on Disclosed Assets

SK2603081993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0540 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) will punish some 15 of its lawmakers who are targets of public outrage over their disclosed assets by early next week, it was learned on Friday. The measures would include ouster from parliament or the party for four to six, removal from parliamentary or party posts for two to three and a reprimand by the party president for seven to eight, party sources said.

National Assembly speaker Pak Chun-kyu and Reps. Yu Hak-song, Kim Mun-ki, Yim Chun-won, Nam Pyong-u, Kim Chae-sun, Kum Chin-ho, Chong Ho-yong, Chong Tong-ho, Yi Myong-pak, Kang U-hyok and Kim Yong-chin are classified as having engaged in real estate speculation, amassed wealth while in office or made false property disclosures, and are thus subject to punishment in one form or another. Rep. Yu Hak-song, chairman of the National Assembly defense committee, announced his resignation as an assemblyman on Friday morning, pre-empting action by the party. Rep. Kim Mun-ki is expected to follow suit shortly.

President Kim Yong-sam, who also heads the DLP, received a report on a party probe into those of its lawmakers under public criticism from DLP executive chairman Kim Chong-pil on Friday to decide on what steps the party should take against each of the lawmakers. Speaker Pak and Reps. Kim Mun-ki, Yim Chun-won and Nam Pyong-u would be told to leave

parliament and the party, the sources said. Reps. Kum Chin-ho, Chong Ho-yong, Chong Tong-ho, Yi Myong-pak and Kim Yong-chin would be removed from their party posts, suspended from the party for a fixed period or reprimanded.

DLP Representative Kim Mun-ki Resigns Position

SK2603082593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—Rep. Kim Mun-ki of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] has resigned as lawmaker in connection with the party's in-house anti-corruption campaign, informed DLP sources said Friday. Kim visited party secretary-general Choe Hyong-u at his office and handed in his letter of resignation from the National Assembly after offering an apology for the trouble following the disclosure of his wealth, party sources said.

Earlier in the day, Rep. Yu hak-song announced his resignation as DLP lawmaker for similar reasons. Meanwhile, Rep. Pak Chun-kyu, speaker of the National Assembly, is likely to make a public statement on his position later Friday or Sunday, sources said.

Opposition Party To Publicize Lawmakers' Assets

SK2603021993 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Mar 93 p 2

[By staff corresponden Kim Kyong-ho]

[Text] The disclosure of personal assets by lawmakers of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] has provided the main opposition Democratic Party [DP] with ammunition for a political offensive against the sincerity of President Kim Yong-sam's reform drive. Yi Ki-taek, the DP leader, said Wednesday that the party will make public the assets of its lawmakers by April 6. The asset disclosure, however, may backfire against the Democratic Party. Some 20 DP lawmakers are known to have assets worth more than 2.5 billion won ($3.2 million) each, the average wealth held by DLP lawmakers.

The opposition party alleged the DLP has "deceived" the public by putting out underestimated figures for its lawmakers' assets. It argues that to disclose one's assets is meaningless when he or she continues making financial deals under false names. The DP claimed in a statement that the asset disclosure by the DLP has undermined, rather than strengthened, the public confidence in President Kim Yong-sam's reform will. The statement came soon after the ruling party revealed the assets of its lawmakers Monday, following the lead of President Kim Yong-sam and his cabinet.

The opposition leader Yi Ki-taek has called for the nullifying of "false" financial statements of some DLP lawmakers and bringing their wealth under closer scrutiny. He suggested that the property list of the DP legislators must include works of art, antiques and other pricey movable items which were left off the DLP list. However, keying in on the asset disclosure issue, the centerpiece of President Kim's anticorruption drive could prove a double-edged sword for the opposition party.

Party officials can't rule out the possibility that some of their lawmakers will be embroiled in the same controversy over their morality as some DLP legislators, who are suspected of having indulged in large-scale real estate speculation. Pressure is building for DP legislators to explain how they themselves have acquired enormous wealth. Such a controversy could well do more damage to opposition party lawmakers, for people have come to expect them to exhibit a higher level of morality.

Reflecting these concerns, the party leadership appears hesitant to make an early disclosure of the personal wealth of its lawmakers. At a meeting of the party's top decision-making Supreme Council Monday, all participants, including party executive chairman Yi Ki-taek, moralized upon the reliability of the DLP lawmakers' property list. But no one suggested the DP follow suit immediately.

Instead, they agreed to back a law requiring the integral disclosure of personal wealth by high-ranking government officials and lawmakers at the coming special session of the National Assembly scheduled for late April. The Supreme Council members also agreed on the establishment of a committee to work out a draft bill on the asset issue.

Party leader Yi Ki-taek had earlier said the DP lawmakers would make public their personal wealth when the bill was passed by the Assembly during the special session. But he later advanced the schedule in the face of rising criticism over a delay. To outsiders, the opposition party's move appeared intended to give its wealthier lawmakers time to trim their property lists.

In an embarrassment to its leadership, a group of first-term lawmakers in the party, led by Yi Pu-yong, showed dissatisfaction with the delay. While party leaders held a meeting Monday, the 12 lawmakers in the group issued a statement calling for an immediate disclosure of personal wealth by all DP legislators.

"We in the opposition should provide momentum for the recovery of public confidence in political circles by making public our assets thoroughly and honestly," the statement said. But Rep. Yi Pu-yong himself expressed concern over the possible controversy that might arise over the property list's of the party lawmakers. "If a single party lawmaker comes under fire for his immorally gained wealth, our party will suffer damage," he said.

Opposition: DLP Asset Lists Lack 'Authenticity'

SK2603113693 Seoul YONHAP in English 1042 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—The opposition Democratic Party on Friday urged the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) to scrap the publicized lists of the assets of DLP lawmakers altogether and have them list their assets anew on an acceptable norm. "We believe the publicized lists lack authenticity as they were prepared at their own individual discretion," the party said in a resolution. The resolution adopted at a party affairs committee meeting and a party caucus said that DP solons, in their part, would prepare and publicize their assets faithfully according to the provisions of the proposed amendment to the law on public officials' ethics.

The opposition party also said in the resolution that in the interests of genuine reforms, President Kim Yong-sam should make public the sources and use of the "astronomical amount" of money he used in the last presidential election. The resolution further called on the ruling camp to launch a rigid investigation of the suspected speculative real estate dealings and tax evasion surfaced in the recent disclosure of personal assets, and punish any one found to have been involved in illegal acts.

Burma

Convention Delegates Resume Panel Discussions

BK2603053593 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Panel discussions of the National Convention delegates were held this morning and afternoon in the respective meeting halls in the Kyaikkasan Grounds. At the panel discussions, alternate panel chairmen and alternate chairmen of the respective groups of delegates explained the speech by U Aung Toe, chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC], on prescription of chapter headings of the state constitution delivered on 24 March at the coordination meeting between the NCCWC and the Panel of Chairmen in the Saya San Hall in the Kyaikkasan Grounds.

The panel discussion of delegates from the political parties was held at 1000 in Meeting Hall No. 5. U Tun Yin Law from the National Unity Party presided as alternate chairman and U Zeya acted as secretary at the meeting. The alternate and reserve members of the Panel of Chairmen reported on and explained the speech by U Aung Toe.

U Aung Shwe from the National League for Democracy and U Sai Nyunt Lwin of the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy presented suggestions on the report on the speech. The meeting ended in the afternoon after deciding to present the report at the panel discussion of the delegates from the political parties on 27 March.

The panel discussion of delegates from the group representing elected representatives was held at 1000 today in Meeting Hall No 4. U Mahn Tin Aung Than chaired the meeting and U Myo Nyunt acted as secretary. The alternate and reserve members of the Panel of Chairmen reported on and explained the speech by U Aung Toe delivered on 24 March.

U Hla Pe from Moulmeingyun constituency, Irrawaddy Division; U Aung Thein from Ywangan constituency, Shan State; and U Tin Win from Dala constituency, Rangoon Division gave their suggestions. The meeting ended at 1500 after deciding to submit the two reports of the group on 27 March.

The panel discussion of the group representing peasants was held at 0930 today in Meeting Hall No. 7. U Thein Lwin of Myaungmya, Irrawaddy Division, chaired the meeting and U Thant Zin acted as secretary. The alternate and reserve members of the Panel of Chairmen reported on and explained the speech by U Aung Toe delivered on 24 March.

The following delegates gave suggestions on the report on the speech: U Myint Thein Naing from Dedaye, Irrawaddy Division; U Aung Than, Chauk, Magwe Division; U Than Maung, Kanbalu, Sagaing Division; U Nyunt Win, Lewe, Mandalay Division; U Saw Myint Aung, Nyaunglebin, Pegu Division; and U Tin Maung Kyaw, Yesagyo, Magwe Division. The meeting ended at 1025.

The panel discussion of the group representing workers was held at 1000 today in Meeting Hall No. 6. U Soe Maung from Magwe Division chaired the meeting and U Kyaw Zaw Naing acted as secretary.

The alternate chairman reported on and explained the speech by U Aung Toe on 24 March. The following delegates presented suggestions: U Nyein Maung, Lashio, Shan State; Dr. Myo Thant Tin, Ahlone, Yangon [Rangoon] Division; U Pe Than, Thaton, Mon State; U Tun Aung Kyaw, Sittwe, Rakhine State; U Thein Aung, Taunggyi, Shan State; U Kyaw Nyein, Minhla, Magwe Division; U San Tin, West Bassein, Irrawaddy Division; and U Sein Nyunt, Mingala-Taungnyunt, Yangon Division.

The panel discussion of the group representing technocrats and intelligentsia was held at 1000 today in Meeting Hall No. 3. U Tin Maung, director general, chaired the meeting and U Kyaw Sein acted as secretary. The alternate chairman explained the speech by U Aung Toe delivered on 24 March.

The following delegates presented their suggestions: Dr. Khin Maung Htoo, professor; U Soe Myint, deputy director general; Dr. Mya U, rector; and Dr. Ko Lay, director general. The meeting ended at 1130.

The panel discussion of the group representing public service personnel was held at 1000 in Meeting Hall No. 8. Lieutenant Colonel Taik Tun chaired the meeting and U Hla Win acted as secretary. The alternate and reserve members of the Panel of Chairmen reported on and explained U Aung Toe's speech of 24 March. The meeting ended at 1020 after deciding to resume the meeting on 26 March.

The panel discussion of the group representing invited delegates was held at 0930 in Meeting Hall No. 2. Dr. Maung Maung Sein, advisor to the Ministry of Health, chaired the meeting and U Soe Lwin acted as secretary. The alternate chairman reported on and explained the speech by U Aung Toe.

The following persons presented their suggestions: U Pe Khin, retired ambassador; Dr. Tin Tin Hmun, chairman of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association; U Wan Tin, retired commissioner; U Chan Lan from Kachin State's Special Region No. 1; U Sai Aung Tun, deputy chairman of Myanmar Historical Commission; and U Shwe Htin, Shan State Special Region No. 3. The meeting ended at 1400.

Family of Delegate Among Victims of Insurgents

BK2603073993 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Terrorist insurgents, who are reluctant to see the prevalence of peace and tranquillity, have been brutally killing en masse and torturing innocent indigenous people, who are living in peace. At 0630 on 20 March,

about 80 opium bandits led by Hsam Hkam from the Lwe Maw group led by Khun Sa and Kan Sit brutally massacred 61 Shan and Lahu nationals who were mining gems along (Maepan) Creek in Mong Hsat, Shan State.

It was learned that among those killed were Daw Nar Shi, wife of U Kya Dei, Lahu national from the Eastern Shan State, who is currently attending the National Convention as a delegate representing national races. Also killed were his son, Maung Kya Pha and daughter, Ma Nam Haema and grandchildren—Ma Ae Nar and Maung Par Har.

Upon learning the news, the National Convention Convening Commission has provided kyat 50,000 in assistance to U Kya Dei, delegate representing national races. U Kya Dei, who was returning to his home to attend the family funeral, was seen off at the Mingaladon Airport by members of the commission and convention delegates.

Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw Win, member of the commission, presented the monetary assistance from the commission to U Tadei at the airport in Yangon [Rangoon] this morning.

Police Boost Security for Armed Forces Day

BK2503145593 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Under the directive of the Yangon [Rangoon] Division Law and Order Restoration Council for security and the rule of law, members of township law and order restoration councils and Yangon division people's police force personnel have been checking visitor registrations to prevent destructive elements from taking refuge in homes.

In checking visitor registration in townships and wards, legal actions have been taken against those who have failed to register visitors, while severe action will be taken against those who fail to reregister.

It has been learned that the township law and order restoration council members and Yangon division people's police force personnel will also urge the public to report any visitor and to adhere to existing laws and regulations.

Article Views Military Recruitment Drive

BK2603022993 Rangoon Radio Burma in English 0710 GMT 24 Mar 93

[Article entitled "The Tatmadaw Wants You" by Maung Myo Thu, Gyobingauk, from 24 March issue of WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in honor of the 48th Armed Forces Day]

[Text] You are wanted by the Tatmadaw [Defense Services]. Moviegoers keep seeing this call being flashed on the movie screens. The call is being flashed at every movie show and, (?what is more), handbills with the same call with beautiful illustrations will also be seen pasted on poster boards under the cinema hall and on noticeboards of the offices of the ward law and order restoration councils.

Friends: This land is your land; this race is your race; this country is your country. Join the Tatmadaw to defend your land, your race, and your country. The Tatmadaw invites you to shoulder the responsibilities of the state. All members of the Tatmadaw are honorable. They can join hands with the people in waging just war. They can give up their life in defense of freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. They enjoy the love and sympathy of all national people.

That is the call being [word indistinct] publicity. This publicity and propaganda campaign is fully justified. Our father, Bogyoke [General] Aung San has said: I will have to compel by law all able-bodied adults to join the Army. They must serve in the Army for two or three years. When war breaks out, you must join in the fight, whether you want to or not. That also is one of your responsibilities. He said this on 13 July 1947 at the City Hall. This behest given by our martyred leader, Bogyoke Aung San has proven to be farsighted.

In some other countries, even minors have to join in the fight in times of war. In the context of national defense, General Ne Win also said as follows on 31 August 1977: I would like to spotlight a responsibility which all national peoples must never fail to perform. That responsibility is the responsibility to defend Myanmar [Burma] from all dangers. To defend your country is your bounden duty and you need not wait for somebody else's urging to do your duty. We must therefore acquit our bounden duty when time and circumstances require us to do so.

When time and circumstances demand, adults must help defend the country in an adult way and young persons must also help defend the country in all ways they are most able. I would particularly like those young persons, who are quickly growing old, to take the opportunity. I would like to see them have a successful career. I would also wish them to have a correct perspective. Young persons first founded the Tatmadaw. Thirty young patriot comrades had to take strenuous military training amid numerous hardships for the sake of the freedom of the motherland.

On 26 December 1941, they founded the Burma Independence Army [BIA]. They let blood out of their arms, drank that blood together, and swore allegiance among themselves and loyalty to the cause of Myanmar freedom. The BIA advanced into Myanmar on 31 December 1941 and on 11 January 1942, it fought against the imperialist British. There were just 20 men when the BIA was first formed, but along its march into Myanmar, the Army succeeded in recruiting up to 3,776 men and in collecting large volumes of arms and rations. By mid-May 1942, the ranks of the BIA had swollen to 23,000, most of whom were young patriots.

The BIA formed with these young persons collaborated with the Japanese and drove the British out of Myanmar soil. The fascist Japanese then turned against the Myanmar people and interfered with Myanmar freedom. The BIA had therefore to be reorganized as the Burma Defense Army [BDA] on 27 July 1942. On 1 August 1943, the Japanese proclaimed a sham Myanmar independence. The Burma Defense Army was then renamed the Burma Army and Bogyoke Aung San became the war minister. When the independence granted by the Japanese was discovered to have been a sham, the Burma Army contacted the Allied Forces, joined hands with the people of the country, and rose up against fascist Japanese on 27 March 1945.

The British then saw with their own eyes how the Burma Tatmadaw fought gallantly and skillfully during the antifascist resistance and how the peoples of the country were solidly united; they were thus compelled to grant independence to Myanmar on 4 January 1948. This, in brief, is the history of the Tatmadaw.

The Tatmadaw, equipped with its anti-imperialist campaign and antifascist campaign experiences, subsequently fought against and eliminated all internal insurgents and foreign intruders. The Tatmadaw was then strong enough to be able to secure victory whenever it fought.

Today's Tatmadaw is formed with the children of all national races of the Union and any attempt to destroy this Union Tatmadaw is an attempt to destroy the Union itself. The Tatmadaw has constantly remained loyal to the people despite several changes of political party governments all through successive eras.

The Tatmadaw should therefore be regarded as the people's savior and giver of life. The Tatmadaw must be duly honored. In so honoring the Tatmadaw, it would be far better for the young persons while they still have time to join the Tatmadaw, which keeps heartily welcoming them, rather than go crowding to the Tatmadaw Day celebrations and give banquets and sprinkle scented water on Tatmadaw personnel.

The older must constantly be replaced with the younger for the Tatmadaw to always retain its strength and the country will be strong only when the Tatmadaw is strong. Here, I would like to tell the following proverbs to young persons who fear that they might get killed if they join the Tatmadaw:

—If all river banks were to get carried away by water currents, there would scarcely be any land left; if all those who joined armies were to get killed, there would scarcely be any armies left in the world. There will be no such persons as war veterans who return from the wars and serve the nation again.

—The brave do not die, nor do they go to hell if they die. To die is to get buried and to live is to possess a golden umbrella.

—Should my son ever decide to join the Army, tell him this: the Army is the real school that teaches men to become noble men if only they could follow the teachings—an old soldier.

To sum up, all those who clearly perceive the Tatmadaw as a benefactor, in other words, those who remember their duties to repay an act of gratitude, they all will only help to strengthen the Tatmadaw.

The country will be strong only when the Tatmadaw is strong.

It is my exhortation that all patriotic young persons be urged to join the Tatmadaw. The Tatmadaw wants you.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister Notes Concern About Russian Events

BK2503145193 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Malaysia is concerned about attempts by the conservative Russian parliament to remove Russian President Boris Yeltsin from power. Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said today that if Yeltsin was removed from his post, Russia would probably revert to communism, thus creating new tensions between the world's superpowers and the new world order.

Datuk Dr. Fadzil said Malaysia feels that Yeltsin's government should be allowed to continue to ensure that the newly born democracy in Russia survives. The West, in particular, must provide support for Yeltsin and his reform program if it wants Yeltsin to remain in power and, also, to avoid new tensions. He said this to newsmen during the Hari Raya [Id al-Fitr, end of Ramadan month] open house of Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba in Kuala Lumpur.

He said the West should remember that the downfall of President Gorbachev of the former Soviet Union was due to the failure of developed nations to support him through hard times.

Dr. Fadzil said the United States should take the lead and help President Yeltsin. Although the U.S. itself is facing economic problems, it can help by calling on other Western nations to put together an economic package to help Yeltsin and Russia. The United States ambassador to Malaysia, Mr. John Wolf, who attended the open house at Mr. Ghafar Baba's, said the U.S. was also aware of the situation in Russia. He said President Bill Clinton has spoken to the G-7 nations on economic aid to Russia.

Production Index Rises 8.4 Percent

BK2603105493 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Mar 93 p 12

[Text] Malaysia's Industrial Production Index [IPI] rose 8.4 percent to 163.1 in January this year from 150.5 in January last year, the Statistics Department said.

All three divisions—manufacturing, mining and electricity—showed increases, the department said in its latest monthly report on the IPI, a measure of rate of change of industrial production over time.

The manufacturing division showed the fastest rate of increase at 10.6 percent to 181.0 in January from 163.7 a year earlier while the mining index increased by four percent to 130.1 from 125.1 previously and the electricity index rose 5.4 percent to 166.2 from 157.7 in January 1992.

In the mining division, the higher index was due to an increase in the index for petroleum, which rose 1.8 percent to 127.8 from 125.5 and natural gas which increased 18.6 percent to 161.0 from 135.7 previously.

The department said an increase in the generation of electricity to 2,567 million kilowatt hours in January this year compared with 2,431 million kwh in the same month in 1992 brought about the increase in the electricity index.

In the manufacturing division, 13 of the 19 manufacturing groups recorded an increase in their indices in January 1993 compared with those of January 1992.

The manufacture of fabricated metals products except machinery and electrical goods showed the largest increase, from 178.3 to 272.0, up by 52.6 percent.

Singapore

PRC Envoy Welcomes Venue for Talks With Taiwan

BK2503132193 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Mar 93 p 2

[Text] China welcomes Singapore as the venue for its reunification talks with Taiwan, Chinese ambassador Yang Wenchang said yesterday.

He added that the city has the facilities and the conveniences for such a high-level discussion.

"It will be a good thing if Singapore can play an intermediary role in these talks," he told reporters at a press conference held at the Chinese embassy.

Noting a change in Taipei's position on the issue, he said "We hope that both sides can have early discussions at the highest level."

Taiwan recently gave permission for some of its officials to visit the mainland despite a ban on official contact with China.

In a recent interview with Taiwanese newspaper CHINA TIMES, Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew had said that if Singapore were asked to be an intermediary, its position must be to be completely fair to both sides during negotiations.

Cambodia

Government Evacuates Village, More Vietnamese Flee

BK2603071993 Hong Kong AFP in English 0704 GMT 26 Mar 93

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 26 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government began evacuating a Vietnamese floating village in central Cambodia on Friday following the massacre of eight people by suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas, as hundreds more frightened Vietnamese prepared their boats to join the exodus to Vietnam.

More than 400 Vietnamese-speaking people—most of them born in Cambodia—have already crossed into Vietnam via the Tonle Bassac River this week. The boat people told AFP at the border Thursday that hundreds more ethnic Vietnamese seeking refuge from Khmer Rouge pogroms were coming behind them.

The boat people were coming from villages in Siem Reap province, where the Khmer Rouge killed 33 ethnic Vietnamese two weeks ago.

The latest massacre in Kompong Chhnang on Wednesday—in which three children and five adults were shot to death at close range or hacked to death while fishing—sparked a new flight of refugees as their family members and other villagers prepared their boats to travel to Vietnam.

"I know the government can't protect us," said the brother of one of the massacre victims. "I know UNTAC can't protect us."

The U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has nearly 20,000 peacekeepers in this country, and the Vietnamese government has appealed for UNTAC's protection for the hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese settlers in Cambodia.

But spokesman Eric Falt said UNTAC lacks the manpower to protect the Vietnamese despite its mandate for direct control over security matters in Cambodia.

"It is the responsibility of the (government) to protect people who live in their area," he said.

"We do not have the manpower to follow them all along the river," Falt said. "We can only monitor their movements and provide protection if we know something is going to happen to them. What else do you want us to do?"

The Phnom Penh government also said it could not adequately protect the Vietnamese, but its armed forces were preparing to evacuate at least one village in Kompong Chhnang to a safer area, according to a foreign aid worker there.

"We try to provide every protection we have in our hands, but we don't have enough manpower," said senior government advisor and deputy minister Khieu Kanharit, who added that the government was trying to increase river patrols but did not have enough boats.

"You cannot concentrate all your force to protect the Vietnamese community and leave open the Cambodian community," he said.

UNTAC also downplayed the movements of ethnic Vietnamese into Vietnam.

"We have no reports of any urban populations moving out. For the time being it is only fishermen on the Tonle Sap lake," he said.

On the Thai border, the head of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Cambodia, Sergio Vieira de Mello, said three people from the Tonle Sap area had arrived Monday at Site-2 refugee camp seeking refuge from the Khmer Rouge. "There does not seem to be any phenomenon of panic leading people to Thailand at this stage," he said.

Khmer Rouge Blame SRV, 'Puppets' for Destruction

BK2603061593 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Mar 93

[Unattributed commentary: "No One But the Yuon Aggressors and the Traitorous Yuon Puppets and Lackeys Are Responsible for All Criminal Acts, Massacres, and Destruction Committed Against the Cambodian Nation and People"]

[Text] A spokesman of the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] Foreign Ministry said recently that the Supreme National Council [SNC] is duty-bound to protect the Yuon in Cambodia. Through this Yuon Foreign Ministry spokesman, the Hanoi authorities are forcing the Cambodian people, who have suffered great destruction due to Yuon aggression over the past 14 years, to be held responsible for the lives of the Yuon aggressor forces in Cambodia. This is a shameless statement by the Yuon aggressors. As the aggressors against Cambodia, the Yuon have no right to demand that anyone protect the Yuon aggressor forces in Cambodia. The Yuon are the aggressors, thus they have no right to accuse and place any blame on the victimized Cambodian people.

The Hanoi authorities made such a statement in order to bury the problem of their aggression against Cambodia and enable the more than 2.4-million-strong Yuon aggressor forces to further occupy Cambodia.

It is known to all that the Cambodian problem was caused by the Yuon aggression. In December 1978, the Hanoi authorities sent hundreds of thousands of troops escorted by tanks and big and small guns of all calibers to invade and occupy Cambodia in a gross violation of the UN Charter. This Yuon war of aggression and occupation has proceeded for the past 14 years and continues to this day. Over the past 14 years, the Yuon aggressors have wreaked all manner of havoc on the Cambodian nation and its people. This great devastation is an unprecedented event in Cambodian history and of the world as a whole.

The great destruction that the Yuon aggressors have carried out on the Cambodian nation and people includes:

I. The Yuon aggressors have massacred Cambodian people by using weapons and all kinds of toxic chemicals as well as by starving them.

II. The Yuon aggressors have massacred Cambodian people by forcibly recruiting hundreds of thousands of them to clear brush and build roads and irrigation networks in western Cambodia. Due to that hard work, thousands and even tens of thousands of Cambodian people have died or were wounded annually due to malaria, famine, and mine explosions.

III. Because of all of the above-mentioned barbarous and cruel acts that the Yuon aggressors have committed against the Cambodian people, hundreds of thousands and even a million Cambodians were compelled to flee the country for refugee camps outside the country.

IV. The Hanoi authorities have sent massive numbers of Yuon immigrants to settle on Cambodian soil, particularly in fertile areas, by driving Cambodians from their land.

From December 1978 to the beginning of 1993, over 2.4 million members of the Yuon aggressor forces have come to live in Cambodia. Over 1.3 million of them hold Cambodian identity cards. The Hanoi authorities are now sending many more members of the Yuon aggressor forces to annex Cambodia through UNTAC's [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] fraudulent elections.

V. The Yuon aggressors and their puppets have jointly committed political terrorist and fascist acts, intimidation, oppression, and massacres against the Cambodian people and members of various political parties that are struggling or launching activities against the presence of the Yuon aggressor forces in Cambodia.

VI. The Yuon aggressors have plundered nearly all of Cambodia and the Cambodian people's national resources and property, including cultural objects in large and small shrines, temples, monasteries, the Silver Pagoda Temple, Khemarin Palace, and the National Museum. The Yuon aggressors have felled almost all trees in Cambodia and have stolen fish from Tonle Sap lake, the Mekong and Basak rivers, and large and small rivers and streams throughout Cambodia. The Yuon

aggressors have seized Cambodia's seas which possess great natural resource potential, including ores.

All of this clearly attests that the Yuon aggressors are the ones who have sowed great havoc and committed all sorts of criminal acts against the Cambodian nation and people over the past 14 years. The Cambodian nation and people and the Cambodian national resistance forces vehemently condemn all kinds of destruction committed by the Yuon aggressors against the Cambodian nation and people.

The two of them—the Yuon aggressors and the Yuon puppets and lackeys who have allowed the Yuon aggressors to commit destructive acts against the Cambodian people—are the ones who must be held responsible before the Cambodian nation, people, and history. The Yuon aggressors and Yuon puppets and lackeys must absolutely not be allowed to divert this blame onto anyone else.

NADK Delegate Addresses MMWG Secretariat

BK2603040593 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Mar 93

[Text] On 23 March, General [Gen.] (Prum Kasen), representative of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, made an address at the 31st meeting of the Mixed Military Working Group's Secretariat concerning the problem that Vietnamese aggressors, Vietnamese puppets, and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] leaders have not implemented the Paris agreement. Here is the gist of this address.

I. In an attempt to mislead the national and international public opinions, the allies within and outside the UNTAC have kept talking nonsensically about Democratic Kampuchea [DK] setting conditions in the implementation of the Paris agreement. As a matter of fact, the Cambodian people are well aware that the DK has implemented this agreement correctly and thoroughly and demanded that all parties do likewise. But 16 months after the signing of the Paris agreement on 23 October 1991, what is the situation in Cambodia?

A. The Yuon [Vietnamese] have continued their aggression and occupation of Cambodia. The Yuon and their puppets are still controlling everything in Cambodia. The Yuon and their puppets together with their allies inside and outside UNTAC have been launching operations against Cambodian people and Cambodian national resistance forces. Yuon and their puppets have kept committing political terrorism, fascist acts, intimidation, oppression, and massacres against Cambodian people and members of various political parties. Everyone knows and hears about all these matters which are stinking up the atmosphere throughout Cambodia and all over the world.

B. The Supreme National Council [SNC] remains powerless, having no role as the legitimate body and sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period.

C. UNTAC does not cooperate with the SNC to control the five ministries.

D. UNTAC has enacted a law giving Yuon aggressors the right to vote in Cambodia.

Through all these, everyone sees clearly that UNTAC has grossly and shamelessly violated, trampled upon, and destroyed the Paris agreement and colluded with Yuon aggressors and their puppets in order to maintain the Yuon puppet regime and old Yuon forces in Cambodia and enable new Yuon forces to flow into Cambodia. By now, there are over 2.4 million old and new Yuon forces in Cambodia. Over 1.3 million of them are holding Cambodian identity cards and have registered in UNTAC's poll registration list.

Concerning this matter, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the SNC, said in his statements made at the end of 1992 and the beginning of 1993 that Yuon aggressors, Yuon puppets, and UNTAC leaders were the cause of a worsening situation in Cambodia and that the situation was very bad because Cambodia has lost its peace, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, chairman of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party and member of the SNC, also stressed that UNTAC has come to Cambodia for 16 months, but the old Yuon are still here and new Yuon have kept flowing in.

Cambodian nation and people both inside and outside the country as well as a number of foreign personages have expressed a similar opinion.

II. In such a situation, why have the allies within and outside UNTAC tried to force the people to attend the elections?

Cambodian nation and people see clearly that to hold elections in such a situation is tantamount to enabling Vietnam to legally annex Cambodia and to killing the Cambodian nation and people.

Recently, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk stressed nearly everyday that elections in UNTAC's way constitute a serious violation of the spirit and essence of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. The prince said that the present conditions for preparing the elections in Cambodia are unacceptable because:

A. There is no neutral political atmosphere.

B. There is no peace.

C. There are daily political terrorist acts, threats, and assassinations of the people and members of various political parties.

D. There is a large number of Yuon who are recognized by UNTAC as Cambodians. UNTAC has also enacted a law to allow these Yuon the right to vote in Cambodian elections.

E. Cambodian residents abroad are not given the right to vote.

III. Having realized all these facts, the prince issued statements on 1 March 1993 and thereafter stressing that UNTAC's mission has completely failed, especially after the UNTAC-organized elections in May 1993. Then, as a lofty prince, he will assume responsibility for the Cambodian nation's destiny. He has proposed a plan to launch a second royal crusade to salvage the nation and prevent the war from breaking out again in Camabodia. Furthermore, this is to seek ways to achieve national reconciliation in Cambodia.

H.E. Khieu Samphan, as head of Democratic Kampuchea [DK] and member of the SNC, expressed support for the prince's 1 March statement and his full and genuine right and role as Cambodia's head of state.

IV. Everything is stated in the Paris agreement. There is nothing else needed to be negotiated. Since UNTAC's arrival in Cambodia, the DK faction at all SNC sessions and various other meetings had proposed that all factions correctly implement the Paris agreement. If UNTAC continues refusing to implement the Paris agreement correctly and thoroughly and colluding with Yuon and their puppets in an attempt to smash Cambodian national resistance forces and Cambodian nation and people, it means that UNTAC is not seeking peace for Cambodia. The Cambodian nation and people as well as people in other countries around the world cannot accept this.

Laos

Organizations Condemn 10 Mar Massacre in Cambodia

BK2603045593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] On 17 March at the office of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] Central Committee, Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the party Central Committee, chairman of the LFNC Central Committee, and president of the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Association [LVFA], received a courtesy call from Nguyen Xuan, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Laos. The purpose of his call was to inform Maisouk Saisompheng of the massacre committed by the Democratic Kampuchea side at Chong Sneat commune, some 10 km south of Siem Reap, killing 33 ethnic Vietnamese residents, seven of them children, and wounding 29 others.

During the meeting, Nguyen Xuan handed to Maisouk Saisompheng a statement of the SRV Foreign Affairs Ministry condemning the brutal killings of the ethnic Vietnamese residents and Cambodian people by the Democratic Kampuchean forces. On behalf of the LFNC Central Committee and the LVFA, Maisouk Saisompheng expressed his ultimate sorrow and grief over the incident and said he resolutely opposes and condemns the savage act of the Democratic Kampuchea forces.

Meanwhile, the Federation of Lao Trade Unions [FLTU] Central Committee also issued a statement condemning the massacre of the ethnic Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. The main content of the statement stipulates that on 10 March, the forces of the Democratic Kampuchea side launched an attack against Chong Sneat commune, some 10 km south of Siem Reap, killing 33 Vietnamese fishermen, including two [as heard] children, and wounding 29 others—26 ethnic Vietnamese and three Cambodian people. This massacre is the worst and most barbarous act witnessed since the signing of the Paris accord on Cambodia. The statement concludes that over the said incident, the FLTU Central Committee, acting on behalf of the workers and cadres of multiethnic groups all over the country, seriously condemns the new act of bloodletting committed by the Democratic Kampuchea side and urges them to put an immediate stop to such action in order to quickly bring peace and national reconciliation to Cambodia.

Government Seeks Foreign Investment in Dam Project

BK2603013993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Mar 93 p 17

[Text] Laos wants foreign investors and governments to take part in the development of the gigantic Nam Theun hydro-electric project in the central region and is keen for Thailand to participate. The Vientiane Government has discussed the possibility of undertaking the project, estimated to cost over US$1 billion, with a number of private sectors from various countries including Thailand, Australia and Scandinavia.

It has sought possible funding from developed countries to help realise the scheme, Laotian Vice Minister of Industry and Handicrafts Khammon Phonkeo said in Bangkok yesterday.

The Laotian Government has not determined the shareholding structure for the Nam Theun project which would be carried out in stages with an ultimate generating capacity of 810 megawatt. The overall project, situated opposite Nakhon Phanom in Thailand, is planned to be completed in the year 2000.

The Laotian minister noted that the country's alien investment laws do allow foreign investors to take 100 percent ownership in business ventures in Laos, implying that the Nam Theun project could be carried out wholly by foreign investors.

However, Mr Khammon said Vientiane would like the Thai Government, through the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT), to become a co-investor in the Nam Theun project.

That desire is based on the assumption that the entire electricity output from the planned large-scale power house is exported to Thailand—the prime objective that gives rise to the project as well as other large-scale hydro-electric projects in Laos planned by Vientiane.

In fact that objective is generally agreed by Thailand which aims to boost the imports of power from its two neighbouring countries—Malaysia and Laos—to meet its fast-growing power demand.

The Thai and Laotian governments are due to conclude an agreement under which Thailand would essentially be committed to import 1,000-1,500 MW power from Laos in the future.

The memorandum of understanding (MOU) to this effect is scheduled to be signed on Monday in Bangkok by Minister of the Prime Minister's Office Sawit Phothiwihok and Mr Khammon. The MOU will provide Laos with a guaranteed market for the electricity which will be produced from half a dozen or so large-scale hydroelectric projects in Laos which Vientiane plans to embark on this decade.

The combined generating capacity of those projects is more than 2,500 MW, far exceeding Laos' own consumption which now peaks at 60 MW. Indeed, exports of electricity from these hydro-electric projects are intended to be the top foreign exchange earner for this land-locked state.

About half of Laos' current generating capacity, at 215 MW and primarily from the Nam Ngum and Ceset dams, is exported to Thailand.

Mr Khammon is expected to discuss the EGAT's possible investment participation in the Laotian hydro-electric projects when he meets Dr Sawit next week.

Philippines

Thai Premier Calls for Liberal Banking Laws

HK2603061093 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0000 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai has said that the Philippines should follow the example of Thailand and liberalize its banking laws to aid in the country's economic recovery. He also praised the government for its efforts to strengthen the economy. Under prevailing banking laws, foreign banks cannot offer full banking services and are only considered representative offices.

Prime Minister Chuan and President Ramos have agreed to expand trade and economic interaction between the Philippines and Thailand. Chuan said the tourism agreement signed by the two countries is the first step toward greater economic cooperation between the two countries.

Economic Secretary Sees No Need for IMF Loans

HK2503031093 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 25 Mar 93 p 17

[Text] The Philippines does not need the $800-million in new loans tied to a three-year economic program being negotiated with the International Monetary Fund. Economic Planning Secretary Cielito Habito said that what was crucial for the country is the "seal of good housekeeping" that comes with such an agreement.

The IMF seal indicates that the Philippines has put in place all the necessary measures to achieve sustained economic growth. It will also open the doors for new loans from big lending agencies like the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank and project an image to the international community that the Philippines is not a risk-borrower. Asked if there were alternatives to the IMF's seal of good housekeeping, Habito said the government could convince the international lending community that the Philippines is a good borrower and that its economy is on a steady recovery path.

The government is set to resume talks with the IMF on April 15. The new economic program will include growth targets for the Philippines over the next three years, projections on interest and inflation rates, and other fiscal and monetary targets. A major kink in the resumption of talks is the implementation of the 18-centavo power rate increase, which the Supreme Court had stopped last month. The IMF had informed the government that it could not finalize an agreement without the power rate increase, which the Fund said was needed to improve the financial operations of the cash-strapped National Power Corp.

Foreign Banks Reject Eurobonds as Loan Security

HK2603034093 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 26 Mar 93 p 1

[Report by Maria Gertrudes M. Chavez]

[Text] Despite the huge success of both the Philippine "Brady" bonds and Eurobonds in the international market, foreign banks have rejected these instruments as collateral for offshore loans because of perceived economic risks, Philippe Metoudi, Cedel manager for Southeast Asia told BUSINESS WORLD.

Cedel is a Luxembourg-based global clearing and settlement house for bonds, securities, and currencies. It has 104 foreign bank shareholders and is not regulated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

As part of the country's debt restructuring package, the government issued $3.3 billion bonds in exchange for Philippine debts. These instruments are referred to as "Brady bonds," named after former U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, who pitched for the massive restructuring of commercial bank debts of Third World countries.

The government also issued $150 million worth of Eurobonds in New York and London early this year.

signalling the country's return to the voluntary capital markets. The bond offering was described by Central Bank governor Jose L. Cuisia, Jr. as "highly successful."

One senior banker told BUSINESS WORLD: "You have to differentiate between the investors and the bankers. Bonds, just like stocks, are boosted by news of anything new. The Ramos government is a new development for the Philippines so the investors lapped up those bonds. But when it comes to using these bonds for loans, that's a different matter. I guess the banks are still basically conservative animals."

Foreign banks have also been forced to reevaluate and sanitize their loan portfolios after the implementation this year of the 8 percent capital adequacy ratios imposed by the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the central bank [CB] for all national CBs.

Mr Metoudi, however, gave assurances that Cedel will initiate moves to convince the foreign banking community to accept Philippine bonds as loan collaterals by June this year. The June deadline will coincide with a new clearing settlement procedure to be undertaken by both Cedel and its competitor, Morgan Guaranty/Euroclear.

"I, for one, believe in this country so much. The new government is going in the right direction," he noted. He also has faith in the country's banking system, which he feels is "one of the most sophisticated in this part of the world."

For instance, the official is amazed at the wealth of information these banks have on various international instruments, pointing to several local banks' subscription of such debt papers as Mexico's certificates of deposits. He said a local bank is finalizing plans to float Euro-commercial papers, a first in the local banking industry.

Mr Metoudi said the refusal of foreign banks to honor Philippine bonds as collateral for loans is costing local banks and international brokers, including Cedel and Morgan Guaranty/Euroclear, millions of dollars.

The Cedel officials explained that since these bonds cannot be used as collateral, the customer or the bank has to advance the payment by one day. Effectively, the institution loses about 3-3.5 percent per annum in forgone profits.

Mr Metoudi noted that the Philippines is not an isolated case. Foreign commercial banks have also thumbed down collaterals using "Brady bonds" of the Latin American countries.

One peculiarity of these bonds, he noted, is that while banks cannot borrow against these securities, "they can lend these out. There is a huge "borrower's market for these bonds."

Financial brokers themselves are not spared the losses, he said, "as opportunity costs have been extremely high." For Cedel and Morgan Gauranty, "any security which cannot be used as collateral is a big problem for us."

Several local and foreign investors which have accumulated chunks of Philippine bonds are now forced to hold on to them. Nine banks are known to carry a huge portfolio of Brady bonds.

Power, Labor Problems Lower Manufacturing Employment

HK2603034693 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 26 Mar 93 p 18

[Report by Evamaria C. A. Estigoy-Lobitana]

[Text] Notwithstanding an increase in productivity, employment in the manufacturing sector was slightly lower last January compared with its 1985 level. The reduction may be traced to continuing power outages and labor problems.

Preliminary figures from the National Statistics Office (NSO) show the overall employment index of key enterprises in the manufacturing sector was at 99.9 last January. Although the sector maintained the level of employment recorded in the previous month, it was 0.2 index points lower than the yearago figure.

Brownouts

Despite the brownouts which reached seven hours in Metro Manial by late January, some industries managed to post improved employment indices.

Leading all manufacturing firms was the transport equipment industry, which has improved its employment capability 2.643 times since 1985. This was followed by industries producing wearing apparel (1.181 times), basic metals (1.171 times), non-metallic minerals (1.168 times) and food (1.136 times).

While some manufacturing sectors expanded their work force on the monthly and yearly bases, the increases were offset by employment declines in other industries.

On a monthly comparison, firms in the electrical machinery sector improved their employment index by 3.6 points to 86.8 from 83.2 last December. The paper and paper products sector likewise registered a single-digit rise to 96.7 in its employment level.

These monthly increments were offset by the 3.6-index point decline to 113.6 in job offerings in the food manufacturing sector. The transport equipment industry also reduced employment by 2.6 points. Likewise, producers of non-metallic minerals sealed down employment by 2.4 basis points.

Year-On-Year

On a year-on-year analysis, manufacturers of transport equipment and wearing apparel registered increases in their employment indices by as much as 18.8 and 12.7 points. However, the declines reported by the textile, furniture and fixtures, beverage, rubber products and

food manufacturing sectors more than offset this, dragging the year's total down 0.2 index points.

During the period in review, the National Conciliation and Mediation Board (NCMB) reported that strikes and lockouts went up slightly to 12 on a yearly basis. The agency also reported that the manufacturing sector took up the biggest percentage of work stoppages, reaching a total of seven cases.

Gunmen Killed as Muslim Vote Canvassing Begins

HK2603045593 Hong Kong AFP in English 0254 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] Cotabato, Philippines, March 26 (AFP)—Two gunmen, carrying grenades, were killed in a shootout overnight as officials began canvassing votes cast in largely-peaceful elections for a Moslem autonomous government, police said Friday [26 March]. The two, both reputed Moslem underworld figures, were shot by police after an anonymous telephone tip about three men acting suspiciously near a canvassing center. A third suspect escaped during the shoot-out.

Moslem politicians in this southern Philippines city believe the group might have been hired to sow terror during the canvassing. Police recovered two .38 caliber handguns and two hand grenades.

The armed forces and national police had deployed 11 battalions to protect Thursday's balloting and the laborious canvass of votes which might take a month to conclude following reports that Moslem extremists might stage terrorist acts to disrupt the election for the Autonomous Region for Moslem Mindanao (ARMM).

Nine people have been killed and at least 25 others injured in a wave of bombings and shooting incidents in Moslem-populated areas of Mindanao since March 15. The ARMM was created in 1990 to appease demands for self-rule among the largely-Roman Catholic country's Moslem minority in the island of Mindanao.

[Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog at 0100 GMT on 26 March carries a similar report, which adds the following: "The suspects were planning to plant bombs at a certain establishment, but residents tipped off the authorities. The suspects were carrying a box of bombs and two grenades packed inside a metal milk container. A police report has indicated that the suspects had several companions, who managed to escape."]

Thailand

Cambodian Refugees Refuse Return Home

BK2603012193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Mar 93 p 8

[Text] Several hundred Cambodian refugees are adamantly refusing to return home from a Thai border camp as a massive UN refugee repatriation programme draws to a close, officials said in Bangkok yesterday.

The "refusniks", as they have been dubbed, number about 800, according to a senior Thai military officer and relief officials.

They hope to gain resettlement in a third country, and many claim they risk persecution if they return to Cambodia, said a relief official. But efforts are being made to persuade them to accept repatriation, he said, adding that: "The sight of screaming refugees being put on board buses to drive them back to Cambodia is the last thing anybody wants to have."

For his part, Maj-Gen Somchai Setthaphan, the deputy leader of a Thai military team in charge of repatriation, said, "We have not decided yet what to do... We'll have to consult with the United Nations."

"They have to be persuaded to go back," Maj-Gen Somchai said by telephone from the team's headquarters in Aranyaprathet, 80 kilometres southwest of the Site 2 camp. He said one solution might be for the UNHCR to send the "refusniks" across the border to a reception centre inside Cambodia, but did not explain how this could be achieved. The refugees are among some 29,000 left in Site 2, the last of seven Cambodian border camps left open following the repatriation programme launched by the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) one year ago.

Over 330,000 refugees have returned to Cambodia with UN assistance since the voluntary repatriation programme was launched. Site 2, which is less than two kilometres from Cambodia's northwestern border, will be officially closed on Tuesday—one year to the day after the programme started—with UNHCR chief Sadako Ogata attending. But relief officials, who say there will not be enough time by then to return all remaining refugees expect the settlement to be effectiveiy closed in the last week of April.

Representatives of the main resettlement countries—the United States, Canada, Australia and France—as well as UN officials have repeatedly told those wanting to go to a third country that they should first return to Cambodia and pursue their cases through diplomatic missions in Phnom Penh, relief officials said.

The repatriation programme, under which returning refugees receive food and financial assistance from the UNHCR, has been one of the most successful of the UN's massive peace operation in Cambodia. But there have already been public demonstrations in the camps by refugees not wanting to return.

Some 1,200 refugees demonstrated a few weeks ago prior to the closure of Khao-I-Dang camp, located between Aranyaprathet and Site 2. The refugee finally agreed to be moved to Site 2 from Khao-I-Dang, which in the past had been a staging camp for refugees awaiting resettlement in a third country.

Last June, repatriation also had to be briefly suspended at Site 2 when unruly demonstrations broke out inside the sprawling settlement, which once housed more than 200,000. The unrest was over the level of financial assistance provided for returning Cambodians.

Army Chief: Border Situation 'Not a Matter of Concern'

BK2603090993 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Reviewing the situation along the Thai border areas for March, Lieutenant General Anuson Kritsanaserane, director of the Supreme Command Headquarters' Information Office, said fighting had broken out between the Heng Samrin and Khmer Rouge troops inside Cambodia some 20 km from the Thai border opposite Chanthaburi and Trat Provinces. However, the incident did not affect the Thai border areas. Authorities arrested a number of people and seized large quantities of war weapons. More effective measures will also be needed to cope with the influx of illegal Cambodian immigrants who have come to seek jobs in Thailand as a result of the UN sanctions against Cambodia.

Few skirmishes took place along the borders with other neighboring countries. However, they can be settled by local authorities and have no adverse consequences on relations with those countries.

Meanwhile, Army Commander General Wimon Wongwanit said the current border situation is not a matter of concern. The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia will continue with its plan to hold a general election in Cambodia in May. He noted, however, that conflicts and fighting among the Cambodian factions will definitely affect Thailand.

Amnuai Deputy Chief of New Aspiration Party

BK2603072293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, leader of the New Aspiration Party, presided today at 1000 over an annual meeting of the party to elect party deputy leaders, secretary generals, and members of the executive board to replace those who had resigned. The meeting elected Amnuai Wirawan, Thawi Kraikhup, and Phaithun Kaeothong as deputy party leaders in addition to the seven existing deputy leaders. Amnuai Wirawan was voted as the first party deputy leader. The meeting elected six deputies to be party secretary generals, in addition to the four already existing. The meeting also elected 10 more board members. The meeting unanimously voted General Phat Akkhanibut as chairman of the committee in charge of amending party regulations in order to improve the efficiency of party operations.

Court Rules To Return Seized Assets to Politician

BK2603134793 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] The Civil Court has made public the Supreme Court's decision to revoke the announcement issued by the Assets Examination Committee, empowered by the the National Peacekeeping Council's Order No. 26, to seize politicians' assets. The Supreme Court has ruled the announcement as unconstitutional.

At 1800, Chief Judge Somchai Thianprasoet read out the Supreme Court's ruling made in response to the request submitted by politician Sano Thianthong for the Supreme Court to revoke the announcement on the grounds that it is unconstitutional and cannot be enforced retroactively. After deliberation, the Supreme Court ruled that the committee has no authority to take such an action and that the seized assets be returned to the politician.

Deputy Minister Says PRC To Buy More Rubber

BK2503105293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit has said that his delegation's recent visit to China to expand the Thai rubber market and bilateral investment was successful. His delegation scored achievements in talks to sell rubber to the Chinese and to enter into joint rubber industry ventures with China. He said:

[Begin Churin recording] Three prominent Chinese agencies have confirmed they will buy more rubber from Thailand. We can examine the results by comparing the rubber export figures of 1993 to those of 1992. In addition, China is also ready to enter into a joint venture with Thailand to produce a black semi-processed rubber product made from raw rubber and carbon black for producing tyres. The joint venture will enable us to sell more rubber to China. [end recording]

Vietnam

VNA Reports 5 Vietnamese Killed in Cambodia

BK2503155593 Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 25—The spokesman for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), Mr. Eric Falt, quoted local sources yesterday as saying that five Vietnamese residents were found killed in Chnok Thru village, by the Tonle Sap River, 30 km from the Kompong Chhnang provincial town, and that Khmer Rouge troops were attackers.

Also according to the UNTAC spokesman, the dead included one man, two women and two boys, aged about 10 and 11.

One more man was also found dead but was still not accounted for. All the victims were shot with AK-47 assault rifles.

A team of UN investigators was sent to the site of the attacks, Mr. Falt said. This has been the third massacre of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia so far this month. The peacekeepers would do all that was possible to arrest the culprits of the attacks.

Earlier, three Vietnamese fishermen were killed in Pursat Province on March 3, and 33 others in Siem Reap Province on March 10.

These mass killings aroused strong indignation among public opinion. The Vietnam Journalists Association and the Fatherland Front of Hanoi have issued statements, condemning the Democratic Kampuchea (Khmer Rouge) faction for the massacres and demanding that UNTAC take drastic measures to protect Vietnamese residents' rights to live and work legally in Cambodia.

These organizations also called on the UN Security Council, the co-chairmen of and, signatories to the Paris agreement on Cambodia, the Suprmeme National Council of Cambodia, and especially UNTAC to take measures to stop at once crimes against Vietnamese residents and severely punish the criminals.

Envoy Writes SNC, UNTAC on Latest Killings

BK2603115093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 26 Mar 93

[From the 26 March press review]

[Text] Our country's ambassador accredited to the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia has sent a note to the SNC, the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], and the Foreign Ministry of the State of Cambodia calling their attention to the killing of another five Vietnamese residents in Cambodia by the Khmer Rouge.

The UNTAC spokesman said that UNTAC will do all it can to identify and arrest the criminals involved in the mass killing of five more Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia.

VNA Reports Vo Van Kiet's Activities in Tokyo

BK2503160793 Hanoi VNA in English 1543 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 25—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet during a current official visit to Japan met at the Akasaka Prince Hotel in Tokyo this noon with officials of the Vietnam-Japan Friendship Parliamentarian Alliance composing parliamentarians from the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), the Japanese Socialist Party (JSP) and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP).

Present on the Japanese side were Yoshio Sakurauchi, Honorary President Michio Watanabe, President Torao Takazawa, general secretary and Hiroyuki Yushita, Japanese ambassador to Vietnam and others.

Mr Michio Watanabe welcomed Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit as an one of great significance, the first ever by a Vietnamese prime minister at a time when the relations between the two countries have seen new development. He said that the Japanese-Vietnamese relations in the past three years have seen rather quick development, but Japan still held that it was too late. He expressed profound sympathy with the Vietnamese people who have undergone and are undergoing countless difficulties left by the wars and hailed their efforts to re-build the country and their encouraging achievements in the renovation process.

He said that his country wishes to contribute to Vietnam's national construction, first of all in infrastructural building, in order to create favourable conditions for Japanese businessmen to invest in Vietnam. He also expressed his wish that the Japanese and Vietnamese peoples would better understand one another, the bilateral friendship and cooperation be further developed, and the Japanese-Vietnamese Friendship Parliamentarian Alliance make a worthy contribution to that cause.

For his part, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said that the Vietnamese Government and people highly appreciated the great efforts made by Honorary President Y. Sakurauchi, President M. Watanabe, General Secretary T. Takadawa [name as received] and the alliance leadership in general in constantly upholding the lofty mission for the consolidation of friendship and cooperation between the two countries over the past years.

After introducing the initial but important achievements made by the Vietnamese people in their current renovation process the Vietnamese prime minister stressed that with the desire to be friend with all countries in the world community, to strive for peace, independence and development, the Vietnamese government is broadening and diversifying its international relations with countries in the world, with priority given to the development of friendship and cooperation with countries in the Asian-Pacific region in which Japan has an important position. Vietnam attaches importance to the Vietnam-Japan relations. Vietnam will do its best to further develop the friendship and cooperation between the two countries to be commensurate to the potentials and aspirations of the two peoples.

He expressed his joy at his first visit to Japan in his capacity as prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and said that he hoped that through the cordial, useful meetings and view exchanges with Japanese Government and Diet leaders this visit would contribute to opening a new era in the all-sided cooperative relations between the two countries.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet reaffirmed that in the new favourable conditions together with efforts made by both countries, the Vietnam-Japan ties could see splendid development.

This afternoon, Prime Minister Kiet and his entourage visited an exhibition on Sony mass media equipment.

Later in the day, representatives of such Japanese major groups as Mitsui, Itochu, Nissho-Iwai, Marubeni, Mitsubishi Oil, Nippon Koel and Kichietsu Bussan paid a courtesy visit to Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet at the hotel. The Vietnamese leader cordially received the Japanese businessmen and encouraged them the promote their cooperation with and investment in Vietnam.

This evening, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his entourage were feted by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Hiroyuki Yushita, and many other senior Japanese officials were also present at the banquet.

Host and guest proposed toasts to the health of Japanese emperor Akihito and the empress, Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh and his wife, to the fruitful development of the Vietnam-Japan Friendship and Cooperation, and to the success of Prime Minister Kiet's visit, which will mark a new step of development in the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Japan for the interest of peace, stability, cooperation and development in the region and other parts of the world.

Japan To Provide $5 Million in Aid

BK2503161993 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 25—Vietnam and Japan signed a note in Tokyo this afternoon on Japan's gratuitous aid to Vietnam in the 1992 fiscal year [as received].

Empowered by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe signed the document.

Under the document, the Japanese Government will provide Vietnam with and aid of [as received] 684 million yen (about 5 million US dollars) in the 1992 fiscal year to fund the upgrading of the Hai Ba Trung Hospital in Hanoi and an afforestation project in the Tay Nguyen highlands.

Correspondent Views Regiment's Wartime Record

BK2603104793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Essay by station correspondent Ngan Lien: "The Vitality of a 20-Year-Old Brigade in Charge of Guarding Vietnam's Airspace"]

[Excerpt] Standing high on a wind-swept hill, I looked toward a military encampment. Below the encampment the countryside was entirely covered with tile-roofed brick houses and high-rise buildings located along various hillsides in a horseshoe shape. Many detachments of young soldiers clad in fatigues—whose olive- green color matched the midland mountain terrain—were seen undergoing training on the sloping land of these horseshoe-shaped hills. That was the outside appearance representing the vitality of an antiaircraft brigade—the 673d Antiaircraft Brigade under the Huong Giang Divisional Corps. Take a closer look and one discovers this unit's 20-year-old tradition of fighting, unit-building, and achieving growth.

In a recent inspection by a team of officers of the Huong Giang Divisional Corps, the 673d Brigade received a rating varying from good to excellent in all its four areas of work. It ranked first among other subordinate units of the divisional corps.

Many younger-generation leaders of the contemporary 673d Brigade such as Pham Quang Nghia, Tran Binh, Vuong Ngoc Truong, Nguyen Sy Thang, Pham Ngoc Chung, Vuong Van Qui, Pham Van Te, and others told me a lot about the tradition of their unit, about those heroic examples from their older-generation predecessors of fighting and making sacrifices, and particulary about the ups and downs of their unit.

Starting as the first main-force division [as heard] of the South Vietnam Liberation Army, in 1975 the unit, due to requirements, was reorganized into a brigade to peform the duty of remaining combat-ready and building itself into a regular unit. Many precursor units of the brigade as well as many generations of its cadres fought on the Dien Bien Phu battlefield in 1954 and other places such as in Dap Cau, Ha Bac, and Ha Tinh; on the Quang Binh-Vinh Linh battlefront during the 1968-70 period; and under the Route 9 Campaign in the areas of Lower Laos and Quang Tri during the 1971-72 period. The unit shot down hundreds of U.S. aircraft and, in coordination with its friendly units, captured alive many aggressor pilots and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy's infantry forces.

Recalling the brigade's 20-year-old history, one cannot help recount the combat exploits of its 250th Regiment, which was the first antiaircraft regiment of the Vietnamese People's Army. As of early 1973, the regiment had succeeded in downing 190 U.S. aircraft and captured alive six aggressor pilots, for which it had been awarded 96 medals of all sorts.

Also as of that time, the 284th Regiment [another subordinate unit of the brigade] succeeded in shooting down 223 U.S. aircraft—49 of them were shot down on the spot—and capturing alive 11 aggressor pilots. For this it was decorated with dozens of combat exploits medals. Its 7th and 15th battalions and the 10th company of its 15th battalion have also been awarded the Hero Unit title by the party and the state.

Cadres and combatants of the contemporary 673d Brigade cannot forget those hard and fierce battles and the many sacrifices they made for the common victories in

Quang Tri, Huong Hoa, Khe Sanh, Dong Ha, Cua Viet, Binh Dinh, Hue, Danang, at the Ong Que Hill, and in Long Thanh and Long Binh of Bien Hoa, and others. The brigade, as a component of the divisional corps, then participated in the general offensive to totally liberate the south and to unify the country during the Ho Chi Minh campaign of 1975.

Since 1975, due to work requirements, the unit has at certain times not been stable. However, no matter what the circumstances, the cadres and combatants of the 673d Brigade have always outstandingly fulfilled their assigned missions, thus firmly maintaining their staunch and determined-to-win tradition as an antiaircraft unit.

The party organization of the 673d Brigade has always been regarded as clean and steadfast. The brigade has won prizes during various training competitions held by the divisional corps or by various combat branches and units of the entire Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

SRV, Lao, Thai Ministers To Meet on Road Link

BK2603085893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 25 Mar 93

[Text] The transport ministers of Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand will meet in Hanoi late next month to finalize plan to build a road linking the three countries. The ministers are to decide which approved possible roads is most suitable.

The spokesperson for the consultant company working on the project said the three countries have to talk about how to share the responsibility as well as finding funds. But she was confident work on the road will begin in early 1994 and take no longer than two years to complete.

'High-Level' Lao Delegation To Visit Soon

BK2603105893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 26 Mar 93

[Text] A high-level party and state delegation led by Khamtai Siphandon, president of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and prime minister of Laos, will soon pay an official visit to Vietnam. The visit is made as an invitation of the Vietnamese party and state. This was announced by the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry on Friday.

PRC Journalists Pay 'Unofficial Visit' 20-23 Mar

BK2403144993 Hanoi VNA in English 1428 GMT 24 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 24—A delegation of Chinese journalists paid an unofficial visit to Vietnam from March 20-23.

It included directors of radio and television stations, and newspaper editor-in-chiefs in central and south China.

The delegation had working sessions with Phan Quang, general secretary of the Vietnam Journalists' Association representatives of the Ministry of Culture and Information, VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY, radio the Voice of Vietnam, Vietnam Television, the NHAN DAN, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN and HANOI MOI dailies, and the weekly Vietnam Women.

During their stay, the Chinese journalists visited some cultural establishments in Hanoi and Quang Ninh Province.

Import Ban 'Trimmed', Targets 3 Products

BK2403160693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0756 GMT 24 Mar 93

[Text] Hanoi, March 24 (AFP)—Vietnam has trimmed its banned import list to used clothing, sugar and second-hand cassette players, the NHAN DAN newspaper said Wednesday.

A temporary import ban last October was placed on 17 products including bicycles, textiles, televisions and beer to protect local production.

The daily, which was quoting a statement from the Ministry of Commerce released Tuesday, said import taxes would be placed on the unbanned goods.

Massive and often illegal imports from China of these 17 goods paralysed Vietnamese industries last year.

The paper did not say why the import ban was upheld on the three products still blacklisted.

Political Bureau Orders Party Schools Reorganized

BK2403094593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 23 Mar 93

[Text] The Party Central Committee Political Bureau recently issued a decision on the reorganization of all central party schools and to turn them into the Ho Chi Minh National Political Institute. The decision says:

1. The Nguyen Ai Quoc Institute will be turned into the Ho Chi Minh National Political Institute; the Nguyen Ai Quoc schools for zones 1, 2, and 3 into the Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and Danang city branches of the Ho Chi Minh National Political Institute; and the College of Propaganda and Education into the Press and Propaganda Department of the Ho Chi Minh National Political Institute. All these branches of the institute will remain at their present sites.

The Ho Chi Minh National Political Institute will be directly subordinate to the Party Central Committee and government and will serve as the center for cadre training and scientific research on political theory of the party and state.

2. The institute will be charged with the following important tasks:

— Providing training and advanced training for key middle- and high-level leading and managerial cadres of the party

and state, in Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh thought, party and state policies, and political work and leadership. Providing training and advanced training in Marxist-Leninist theory and Ho Chi Minh thought for cadres with college or higher educational backgrounds in order for them to be assigned as key leading and research cadres at various research and other institutes, Marxist-Leninist schools, and colleges.

— Conducting research on matters related to Marxist-Leninist theory, Ho Chi Minh thought, and political science as well as on theoretical and practical problems in the Vietnamese revolution and issues on party lines, strategies, and tactics, party development, state leadership and management, and social management.

— Directing political schools in provinces and cities directly subordinate to the central government in formulating academic programs and contents and scientific training and research methods.

— Expanding international cooperation with other countries and parties in scientic training and research activities.